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BLACK PANTHER



JOHN RIDLEY
JUANN CABAL
FEDERICO BLEE
MATT MILLA

THE LONG SHADOW

MARVEL



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THE LONG SHADOW

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY **STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY**

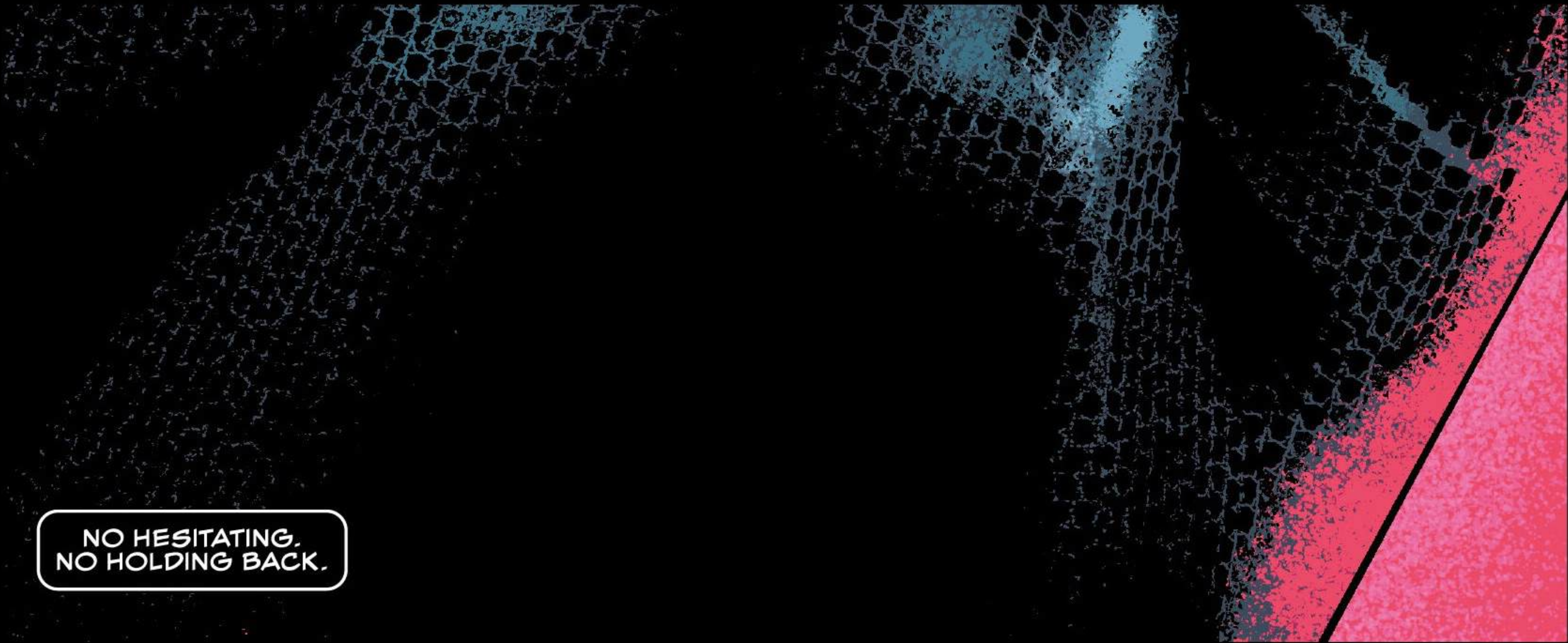
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SO...LET'S JUST
GET RIGHT TO IT.



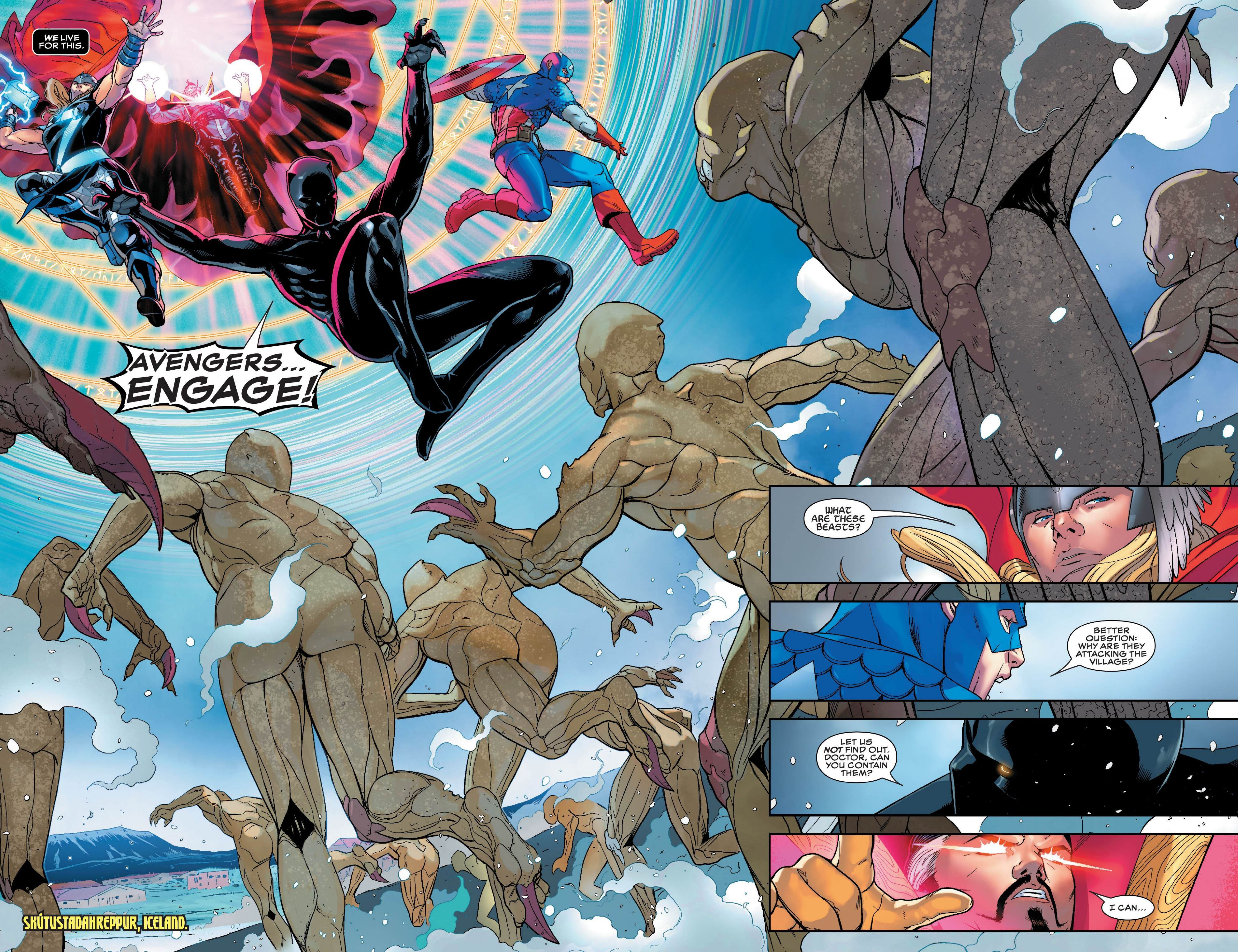
NO HESITATING.
NO HOLDING BACK.



WHY SAVE ANYTHING
FOR LATER?



I LIVE
FOR THIS.



WE LIVE FOR THIS.

AVENGERS...
ENGAGE!

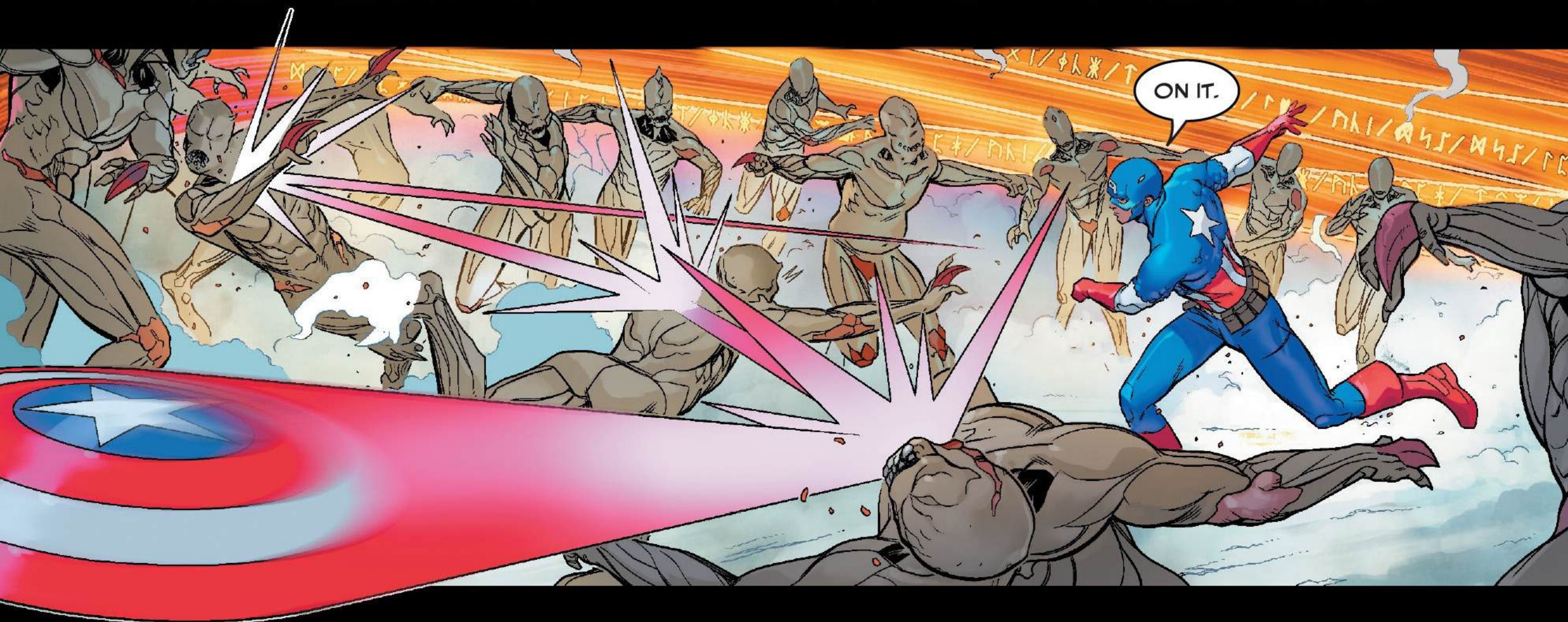
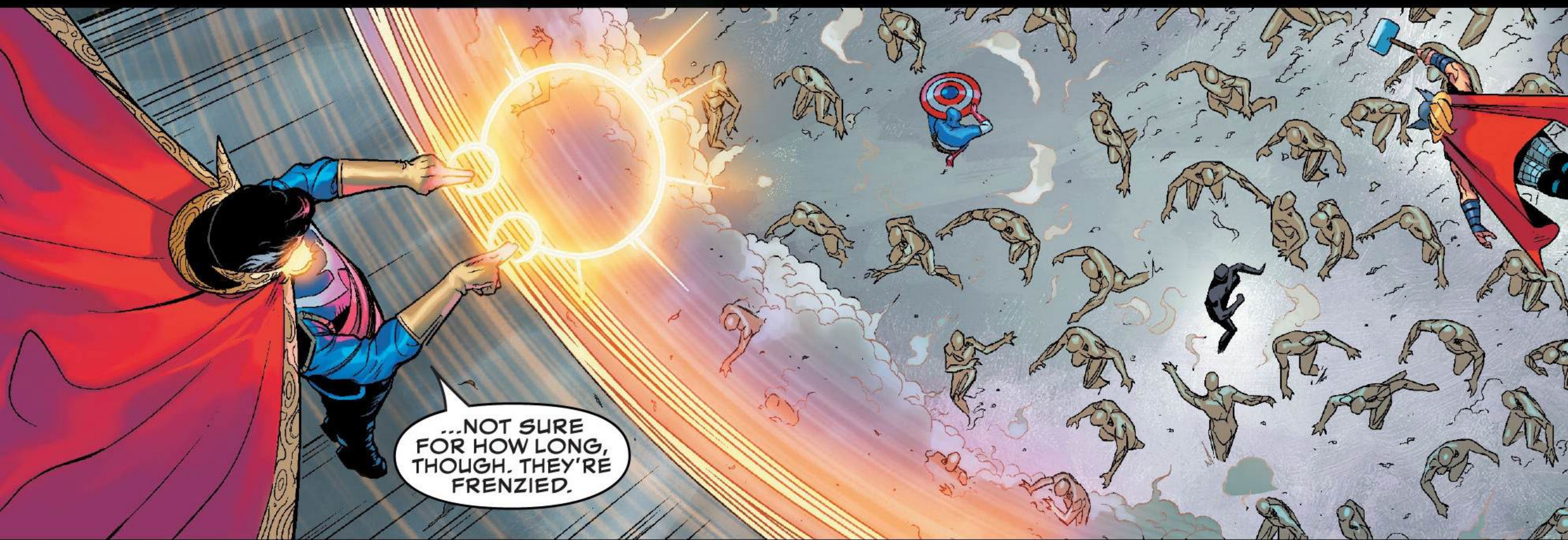
WHAT ARE THESE BEASTS?

BETTER QUESTION: WHY ARE THEY ATTACKING THE VILLAGE?

LET US NOT FIND OUT. DOCTOR, CAN YOU CONTAIN THEM?

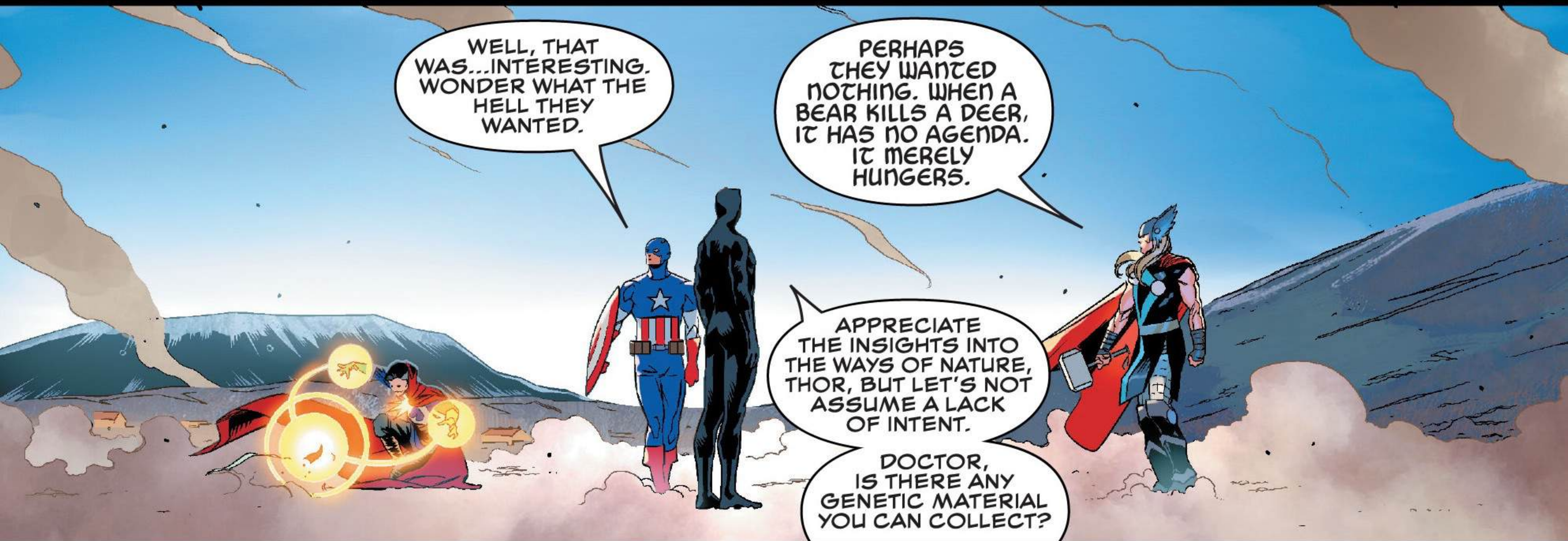
I CAN...

SKÚTUSTADAHREPPUR, ICELAND.











"THERE'S ALWAYS A PORTAL"?

I JUST MEANT THERE'S ALWAYS A SOLUTION. GENERALLY, IT IS THE MOST OBVIOUS ONE.

THANKS FOR HELPING US FIND IT. NICE TO HAVE YOU BACK FULL-TIME, CHAIRPERSON.

YOU ARE BACK, AREN'T YOU? I MEAN, NO MORE RUNNING AROUND IN OUTER SPACE?

WHILE I AM NOW EMPEROR OF THE INTERGALACTIC EMPIRE, I PLAN TO RUN THINGS FROM HERE BY AND LARGE. AND MY ROLE AS KING OF WAKANDA IS...SHIFTING.

SO I MAY BE AROUND A LITTLE TOO MUCH.



CAN I HAVE YOUR WORD ON THAT?

STEVEN... ARE YOU QUESTIONING ME?

I'M ASKING YOU. WE ALL HAVE OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES, BUT A LEADER NEEDS TO LEAD.

THAT'S HARD TO DO WHEN YOU'VE GOT ONE EYE ON THE PROBLEM AND THE OTHER ON THE MIDDLE OF THE UNIVERSE.

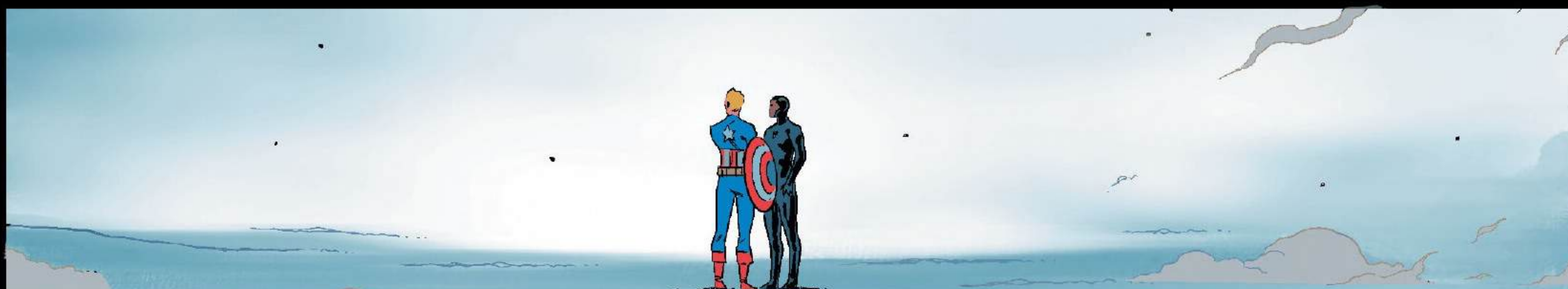


I WILL CONTINUE MY SERVICE AS THE CHAIRPERSON WITH AN EVER-INCREASING ATTENTION TO THE AVENGERS.

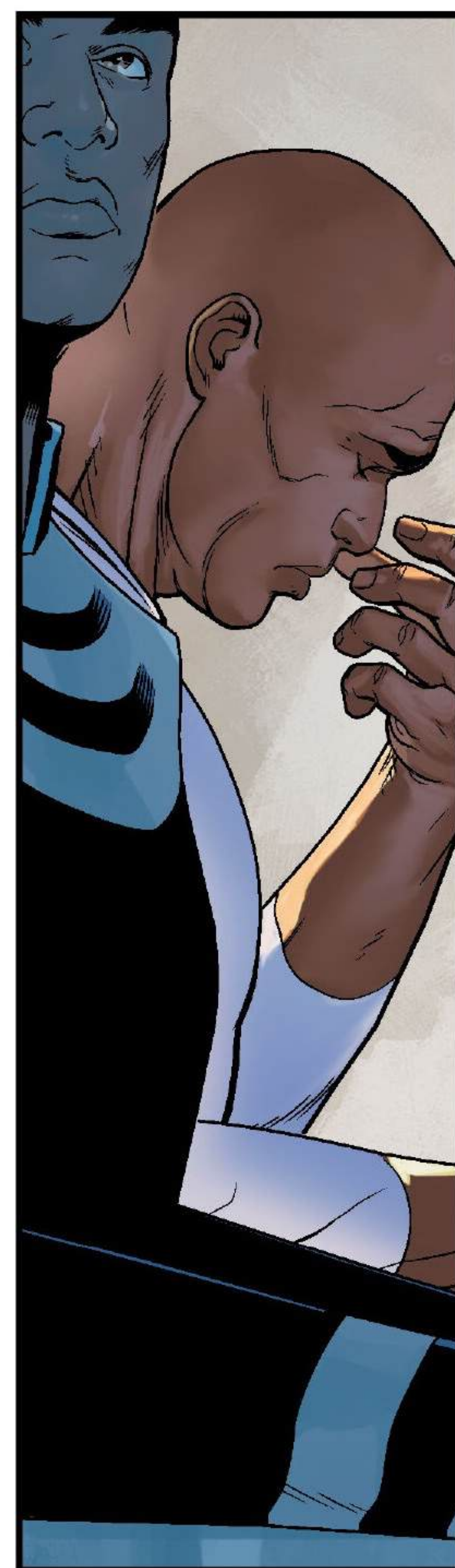
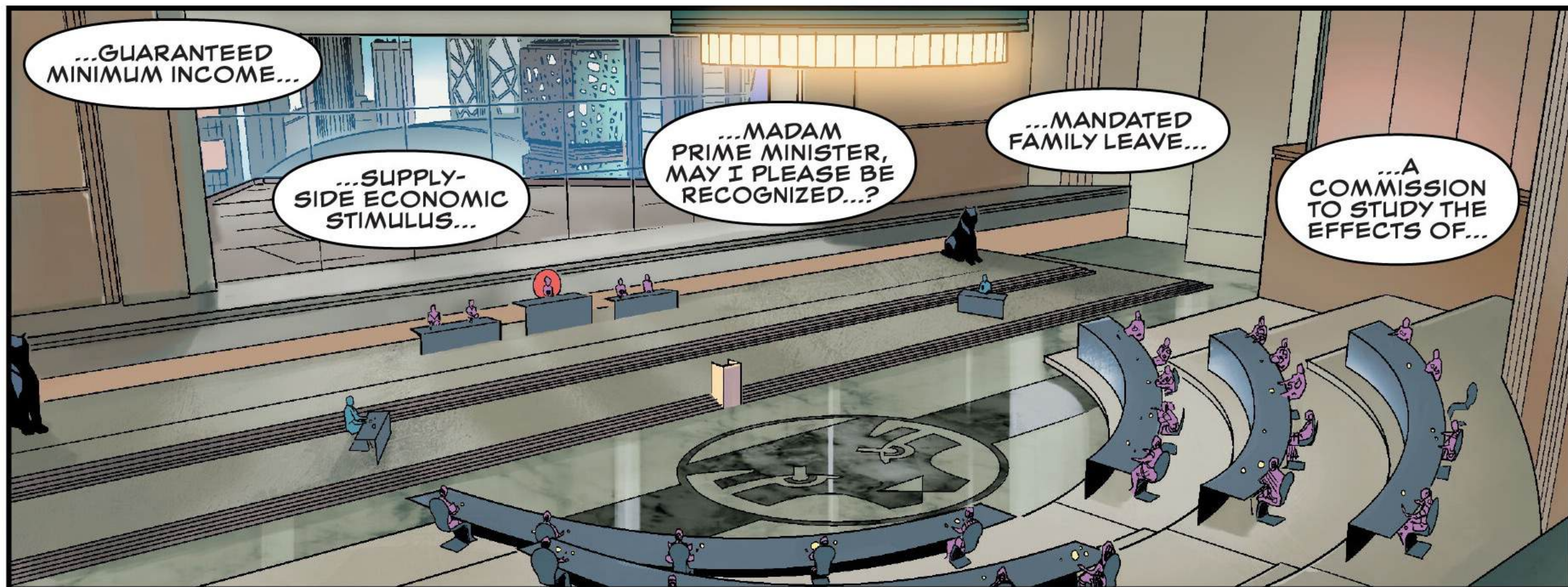
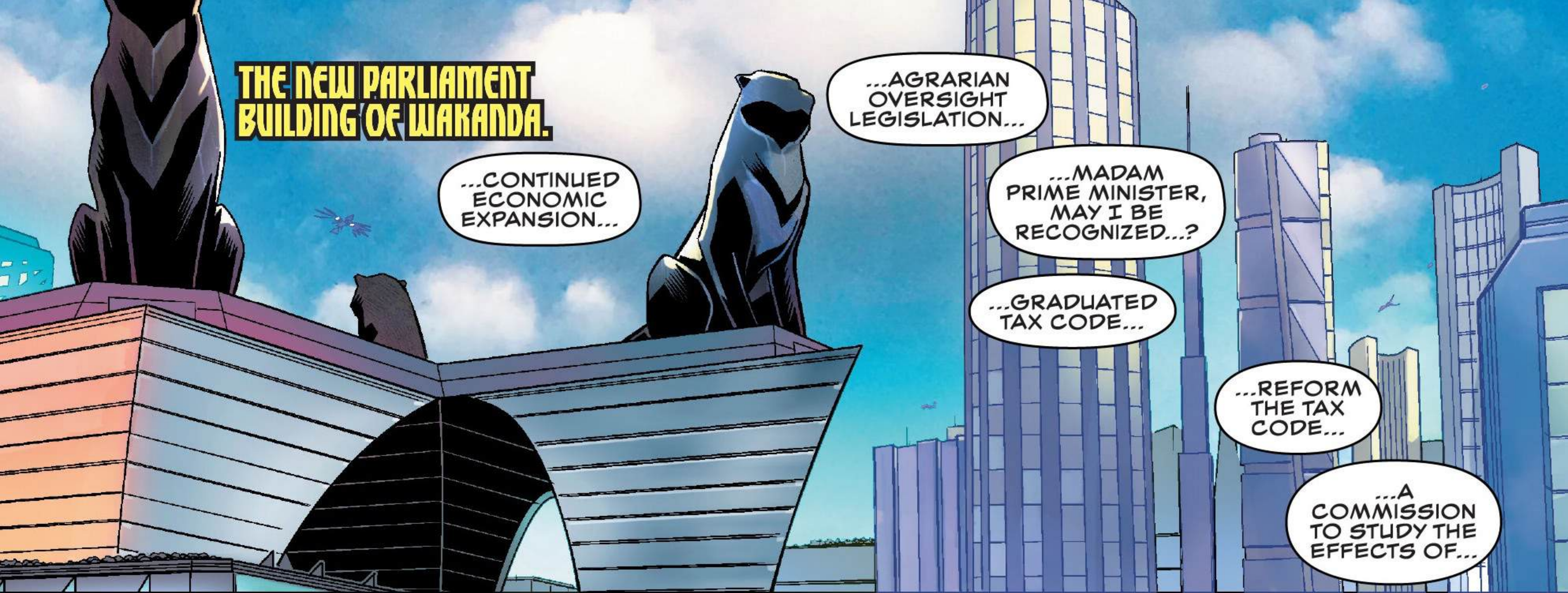
ON THAT YOU HAVE MY WORD.

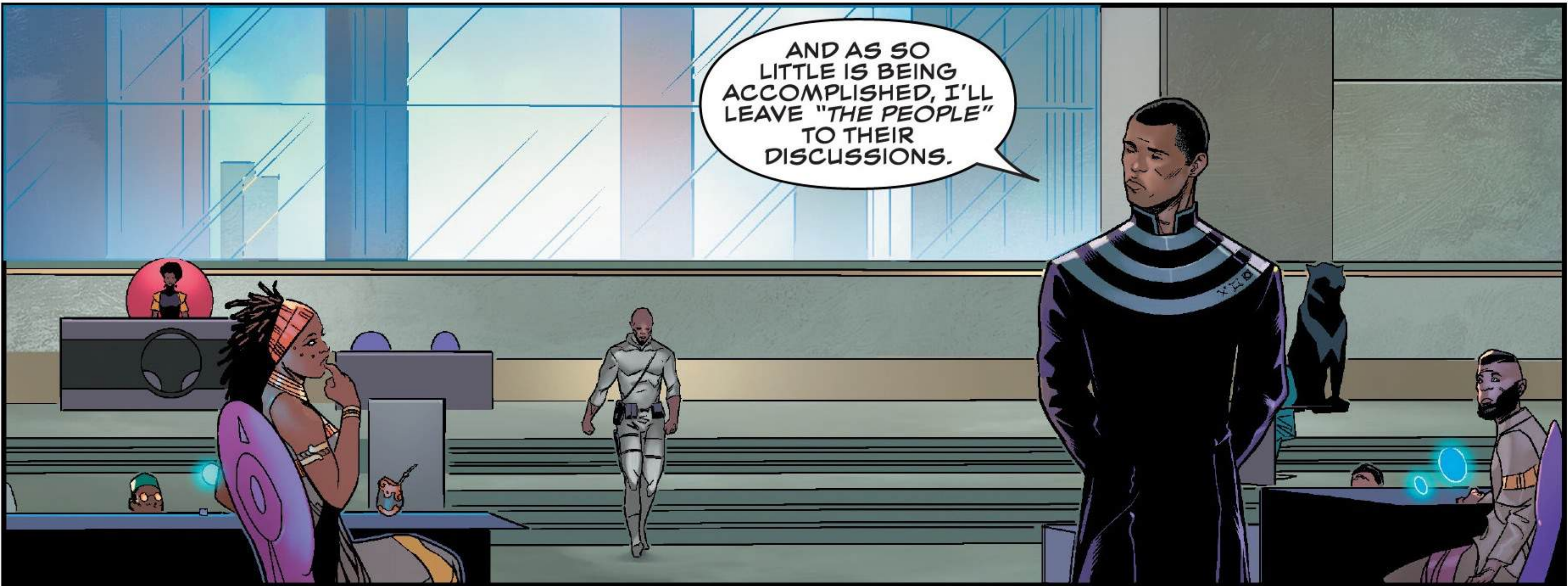
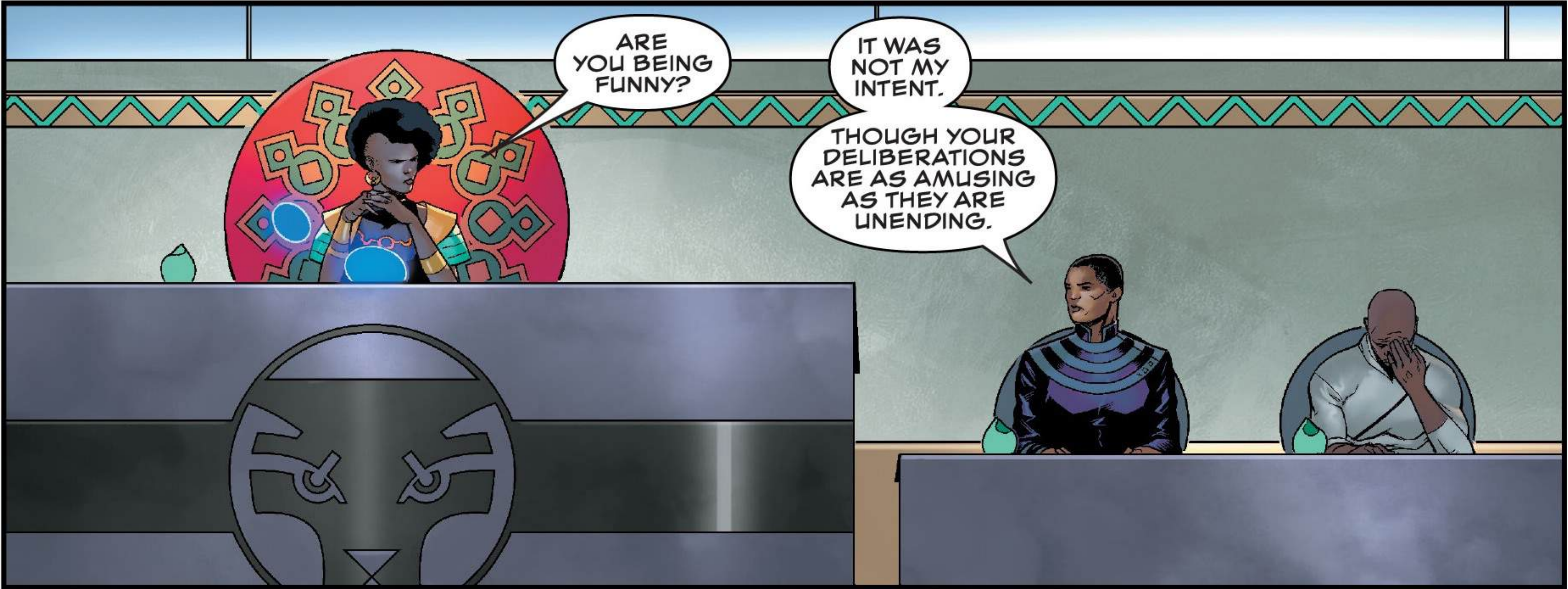


THAT'S ALL I'M ASKING FOR.



WE SHOULD PROBABLY CALL IN A JET, HUH?







T'CHALLA...

AKILI, IF YOU'RE COMING TO GIVE ME A LECTURE ON DECORUM...



I WOULD NEVER ASSUME TO LECTURE MY KING. ONLY TO HAVE A... "CONVERSATION" ON DIPLOMACY.

I WISH PRIME MINISTER FOLASADE WELL, I TRULY DO. BUT THE ENDLESS TALK, TALK, TALK...

DEMOCRACY IS A PROCESS.

AND SO IS DIGGING A DITCH, BUT DEBATING THE ACTION IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR PUTTING SHOVEL TO EARTH.



A PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT... THIS IS NEW TERRITORY FOR ALL OF US.

AND IT GIVES ME PAUSE.

WHICH ASPECT? THAT WAKANDANS WILL HAVE A GREATER HAND IN THEIR OWN AFFAIRS...

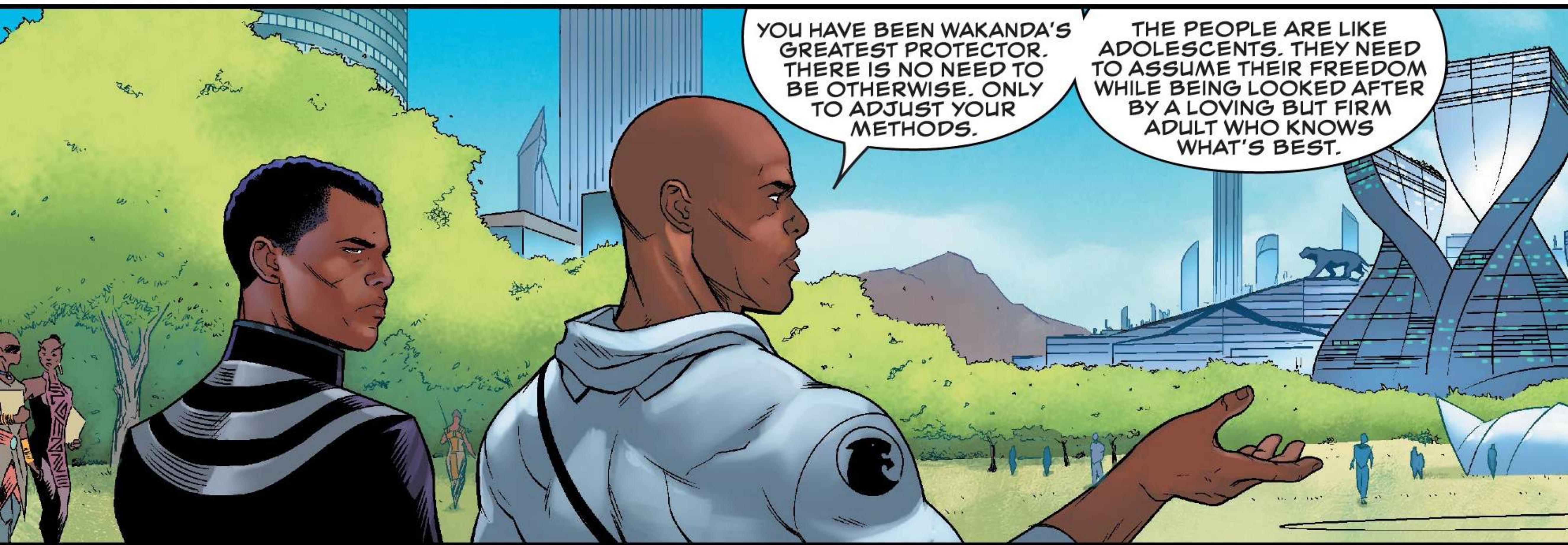
...OR THAT YOU WILL HAVE LESS OF ONE?



CEDING AUTHORITY IS HARDER THAN I THOUGHT. BEING A PROTECTOR...IT IS WHO I AM, AND IT IS WHAT I LIVE FOR.

I UNDERSTAND.

I COULD NOT LEAD THE HATUT ZERAZE IF I DID NOT APPRECIATE THE OBLIGATION OF BEING THE PEOPLE'S SWORD AND SHIELD.



YOU HAVE BEEN WAKANDA'S GREATEST PROTECTOR. THERE IS NO NEED TO BE OTHERWISE. ONLY TO ADJUST YOUR METHODS.

THE PEOPLE ARE LIKE ADOLESCENTS. THEY NEED TO ASSUME THEIR FREEDOM WHILE BEING LOOKED AFTER BY A LOVING BUT FIRM ADULT WHO KNOWS WHAT'S BEST.

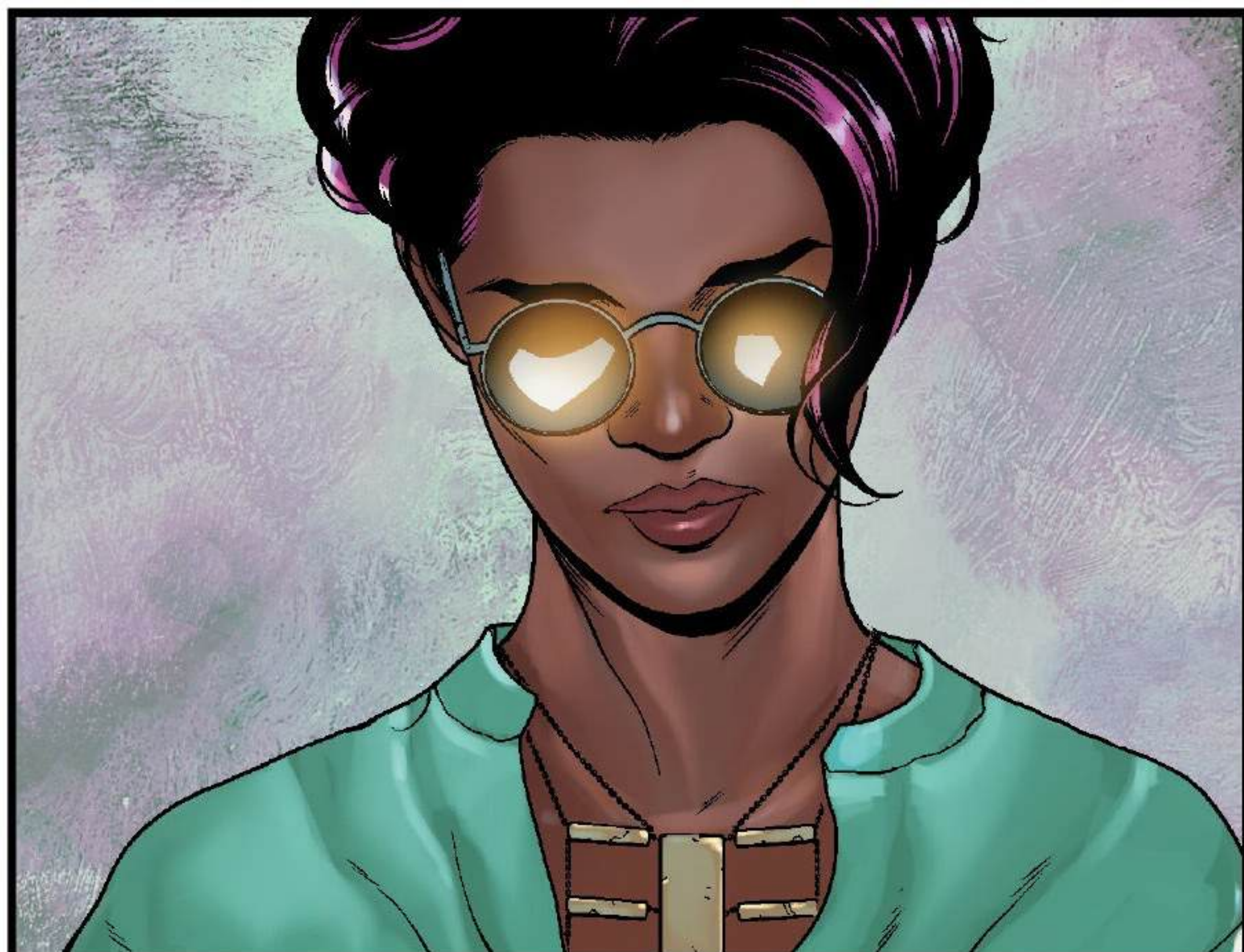
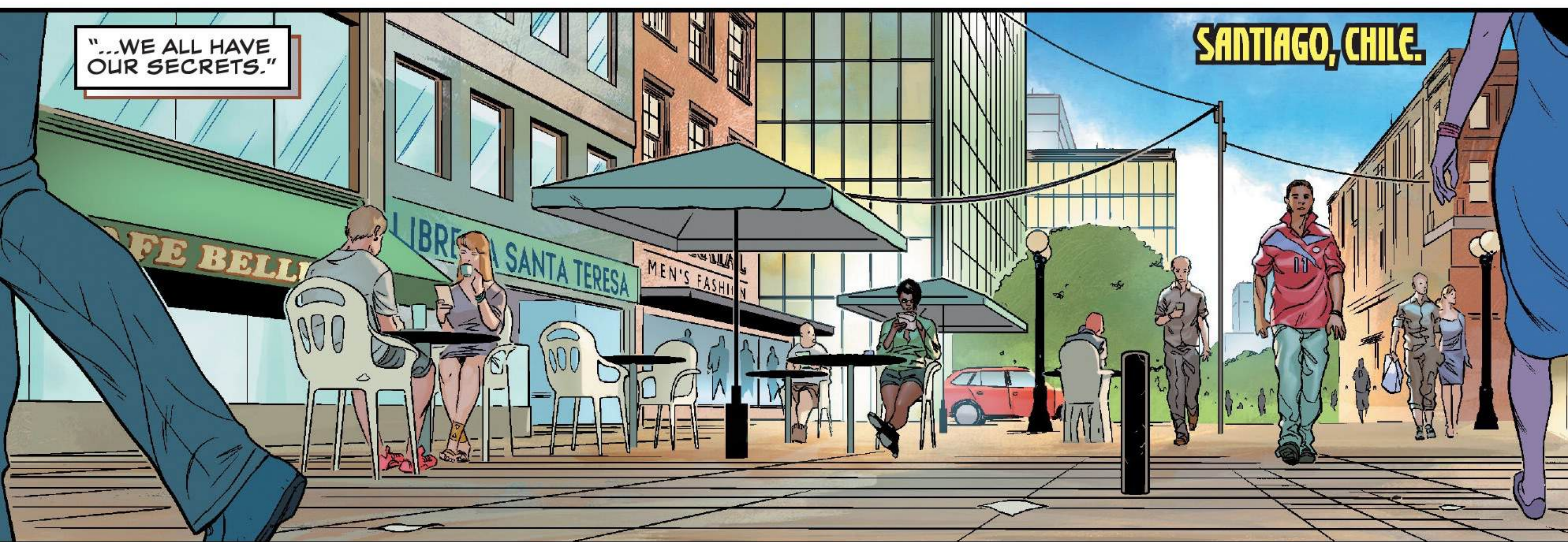


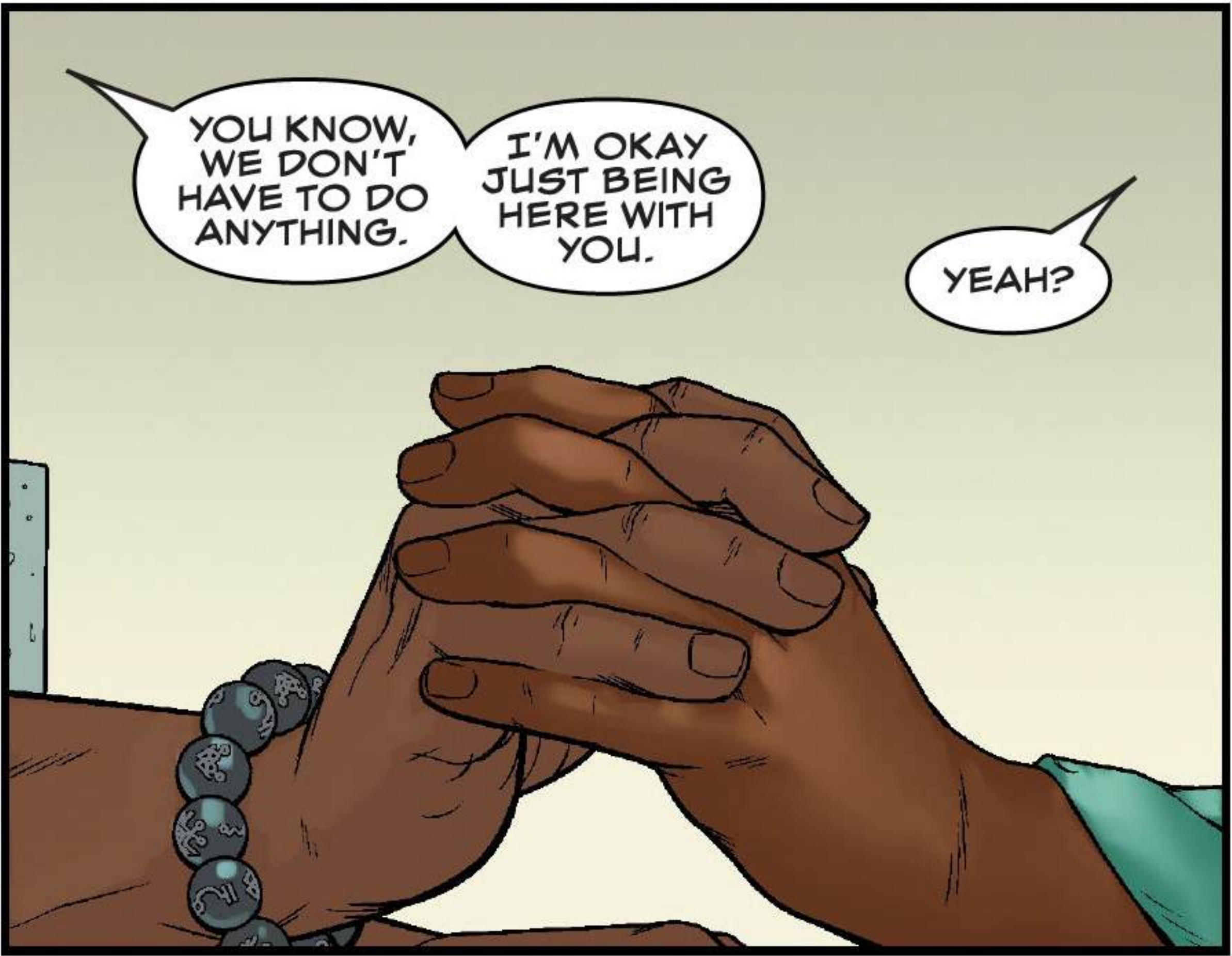
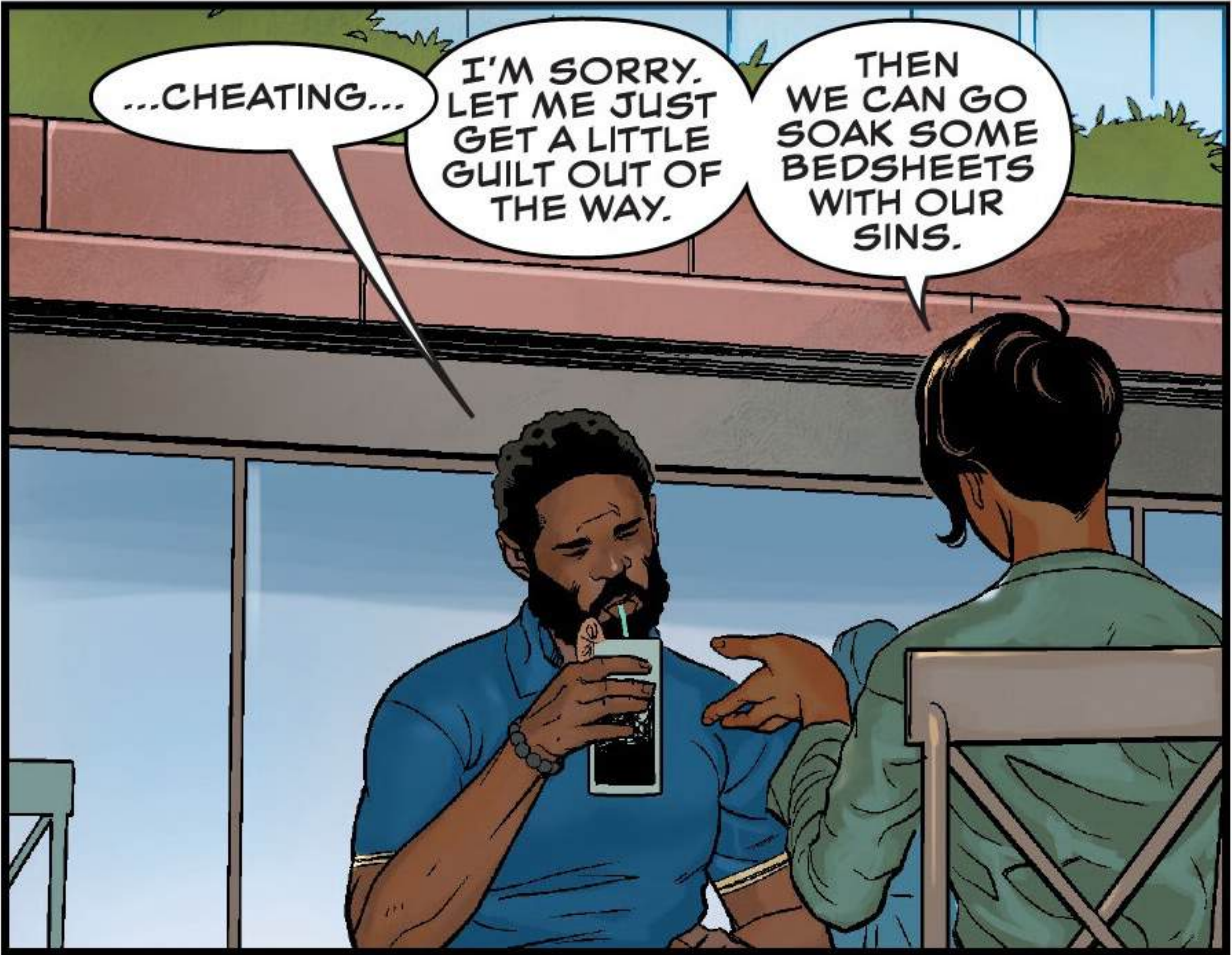
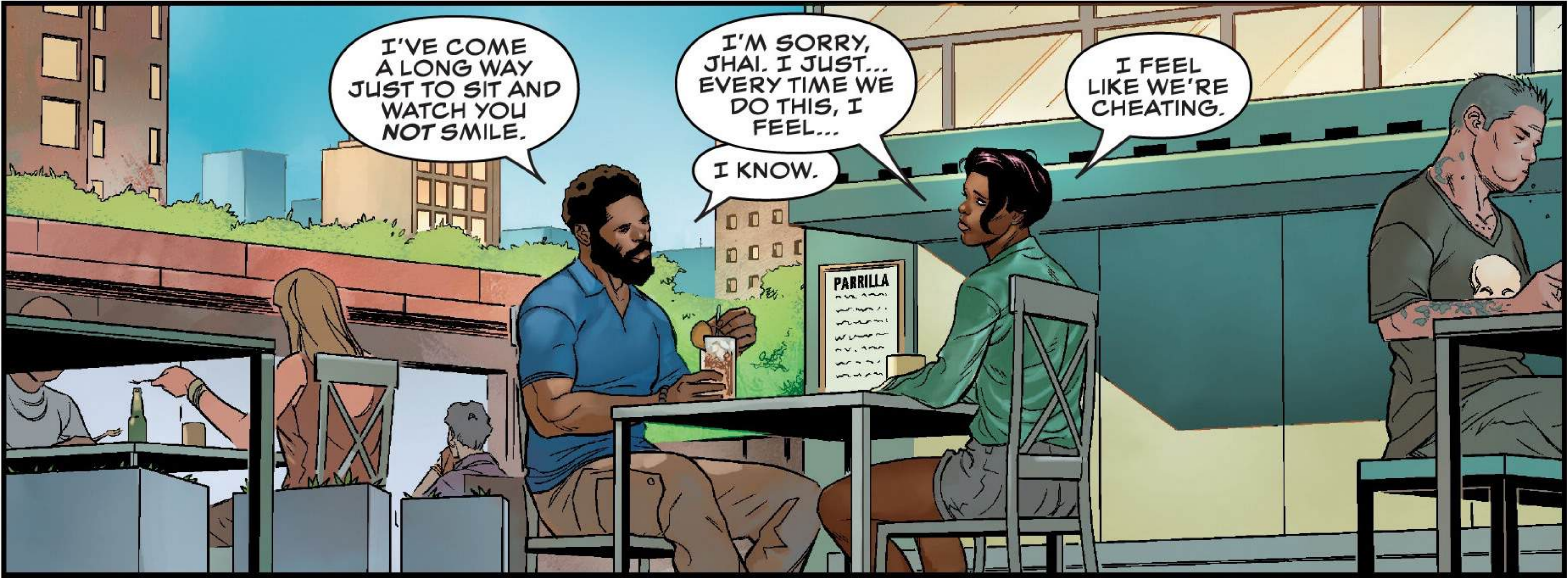
I'M SORRY IF THAT SEEMS EXTREME.

I'M JUST AMAZED AT HOW LYRICALLY YOU CAN EXPRESS WHAT I'M THINKING.

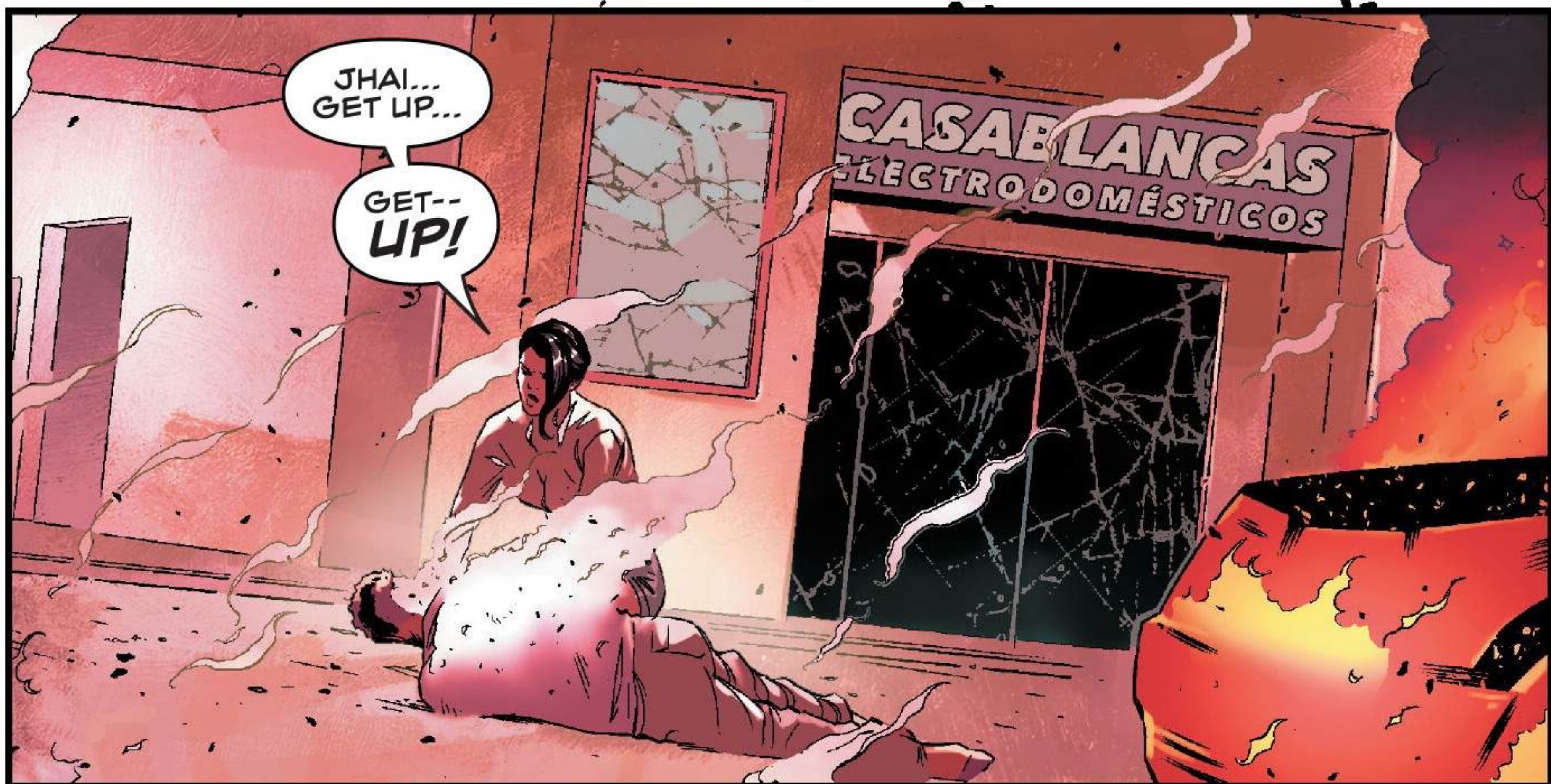
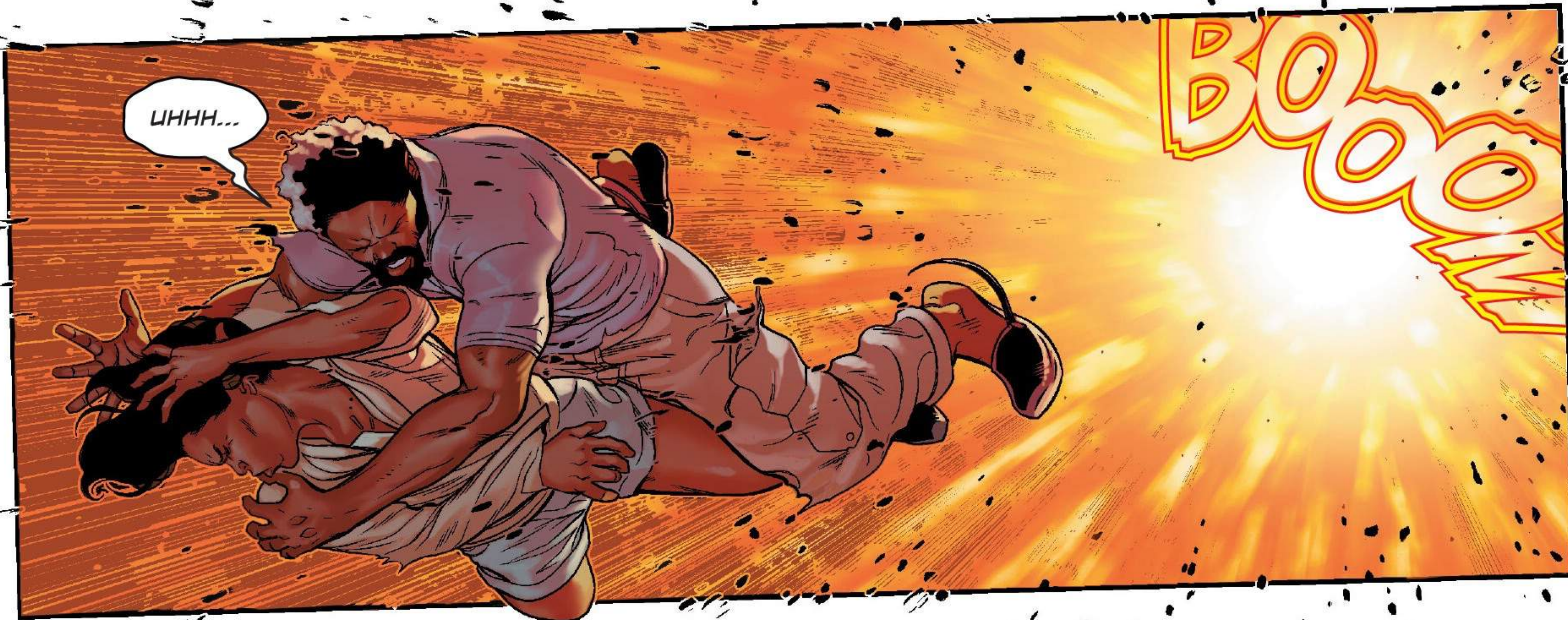
SO BE THE FIRM ADULT. EVEN IF YOU MUST DO SO FROM THE SHADOWS.

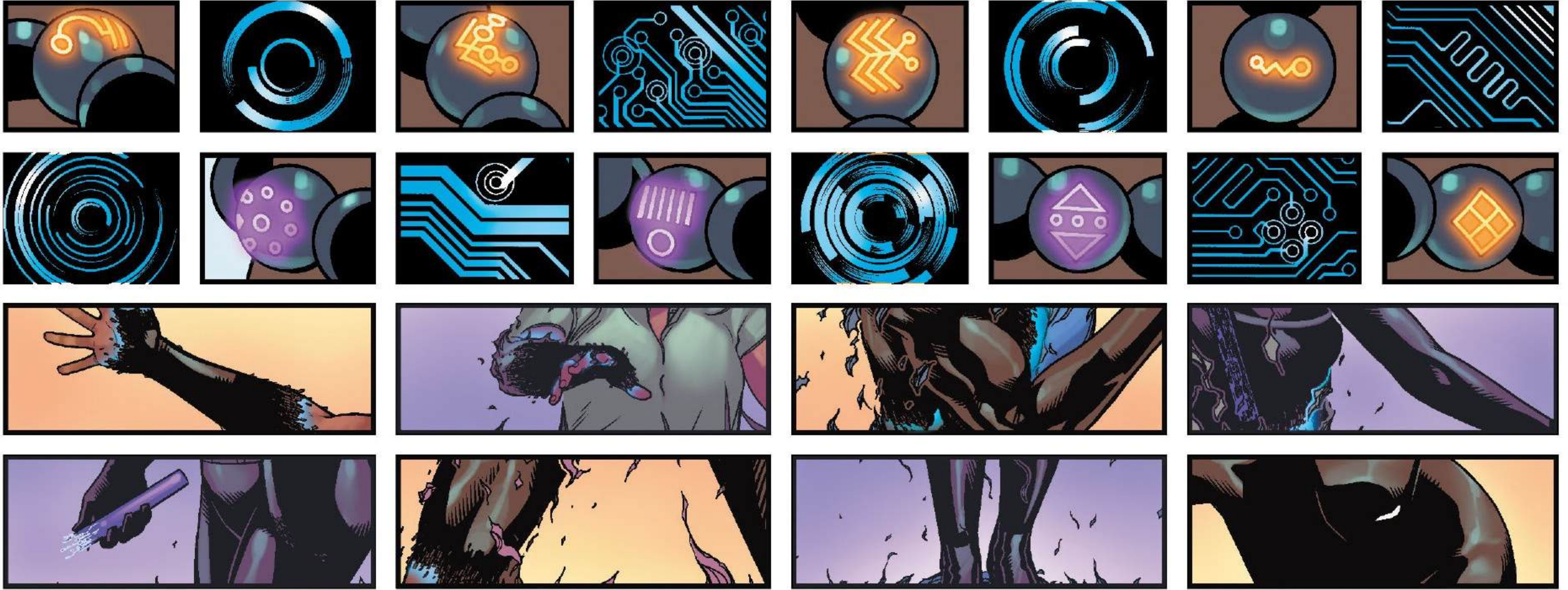
THE TRUTH IS, T'CHALLA...

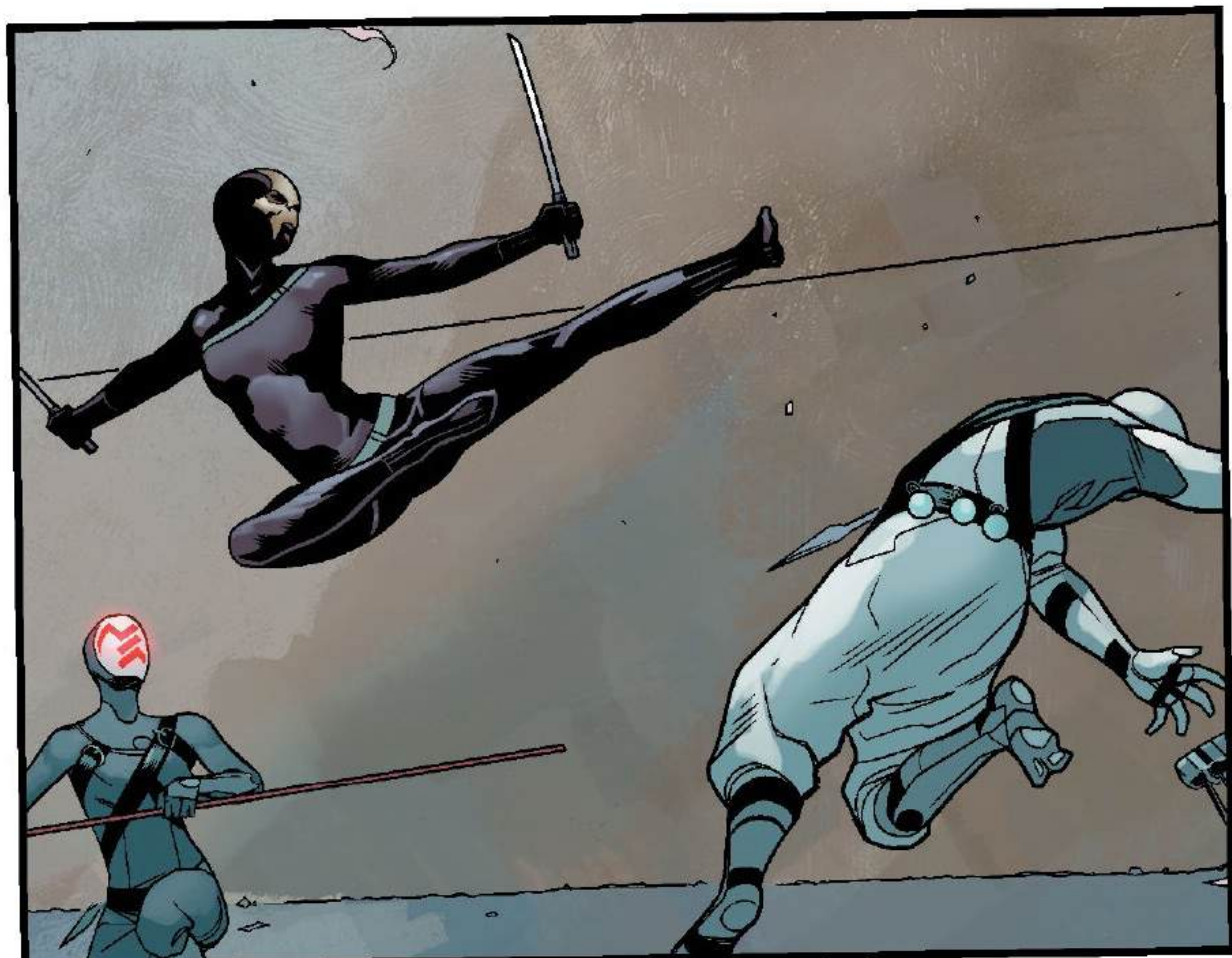
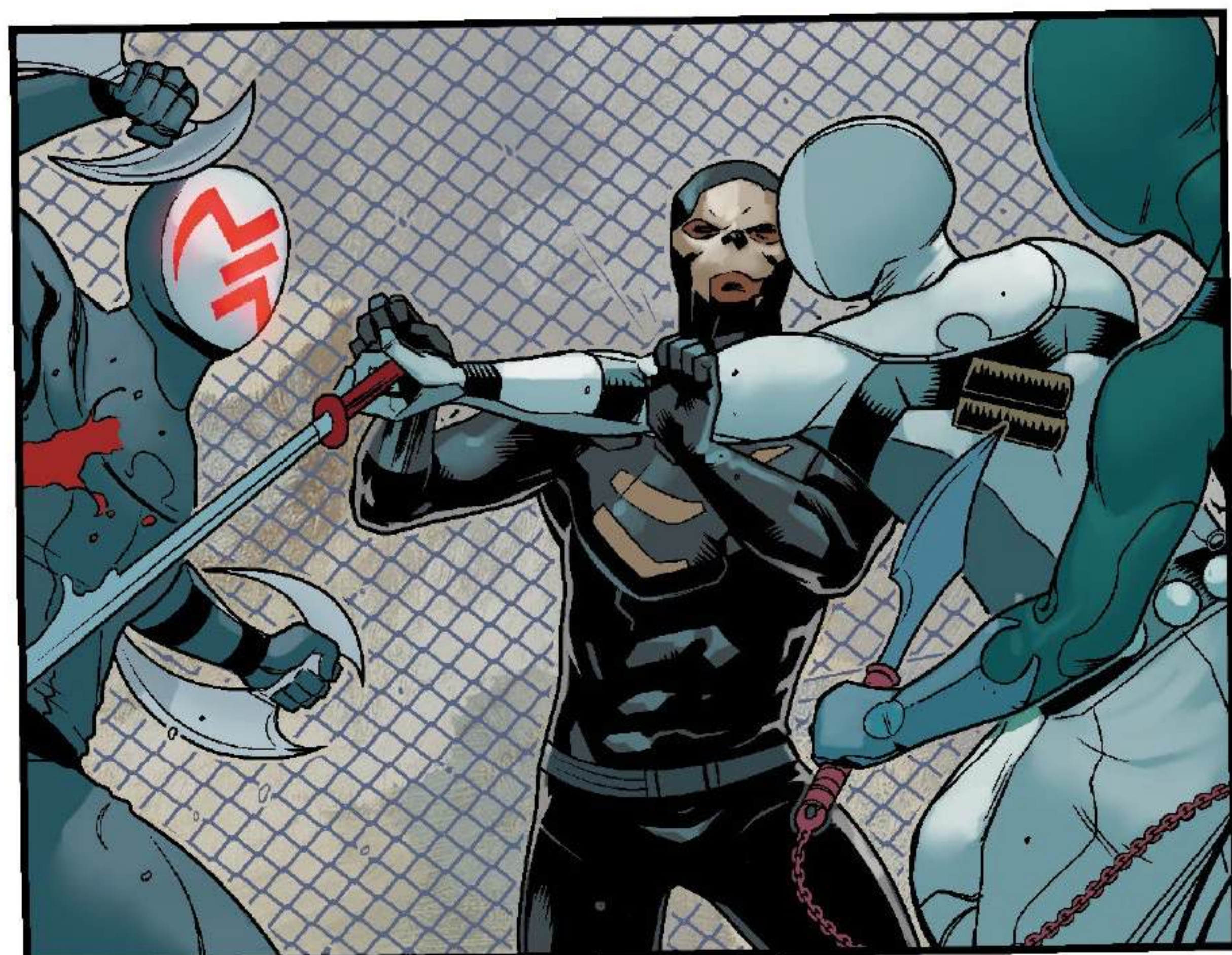
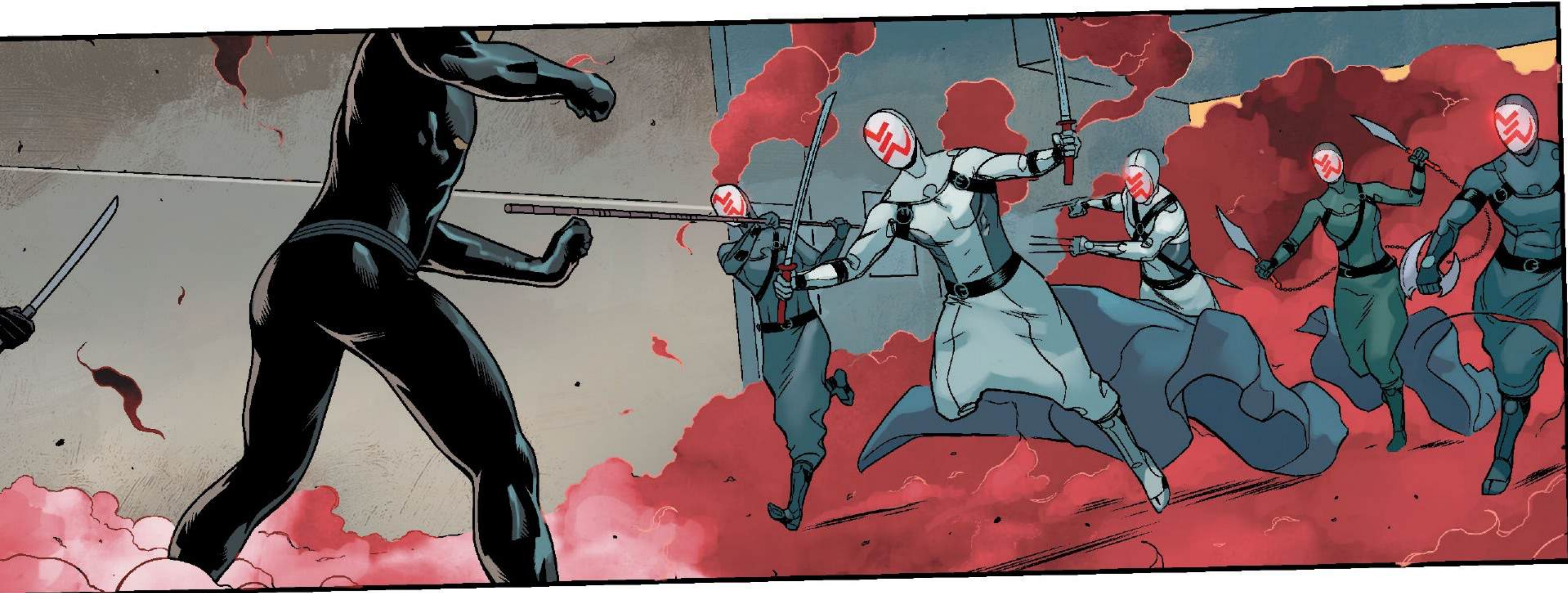


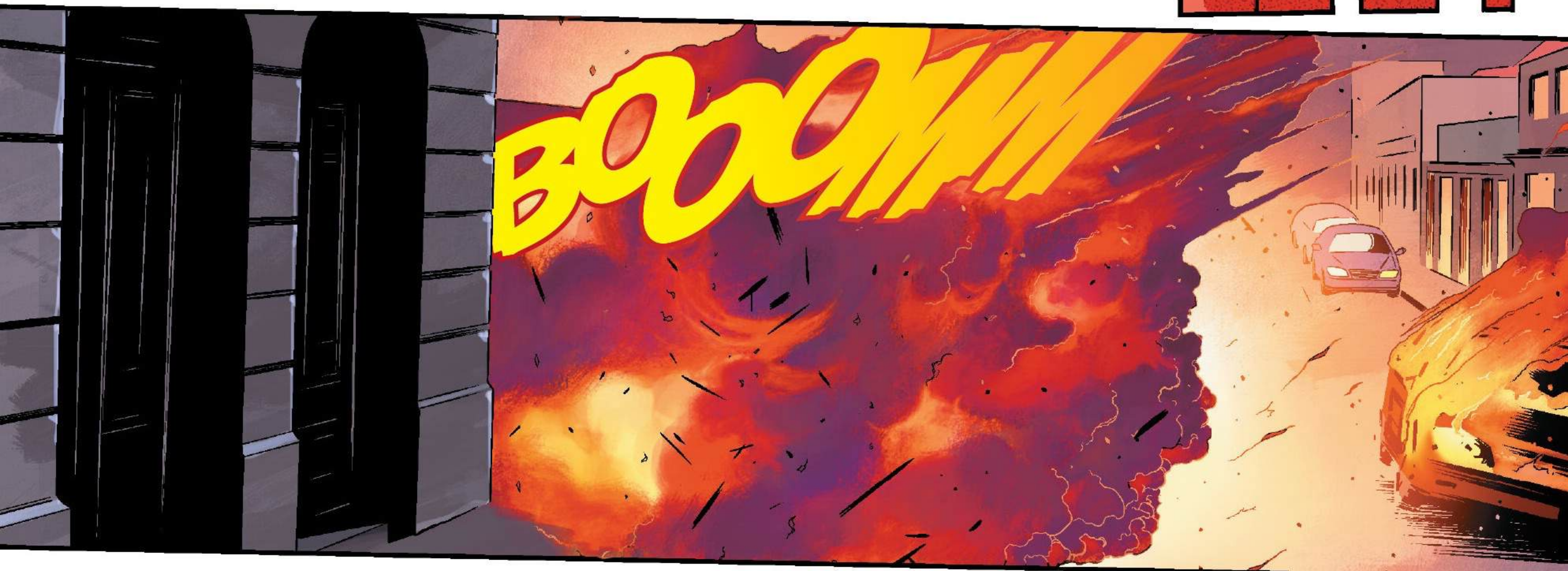
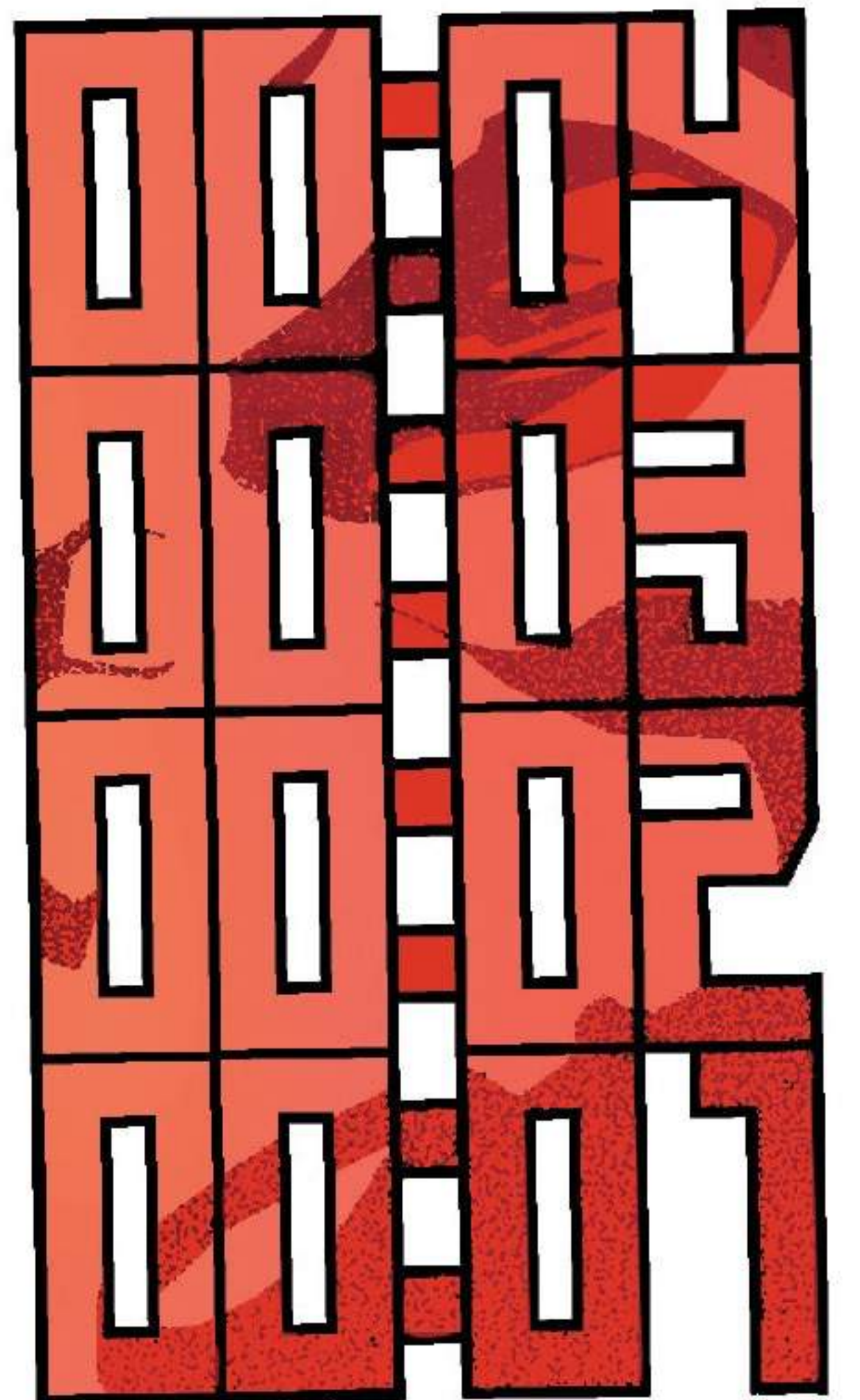
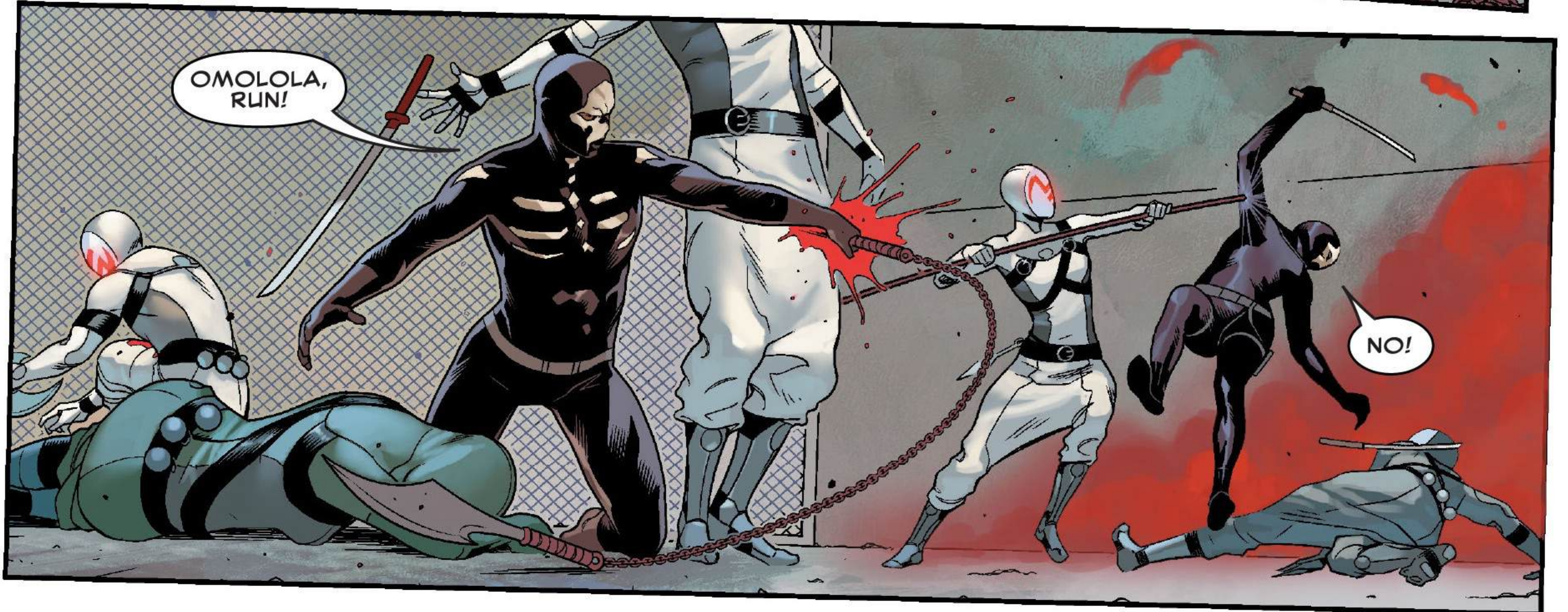


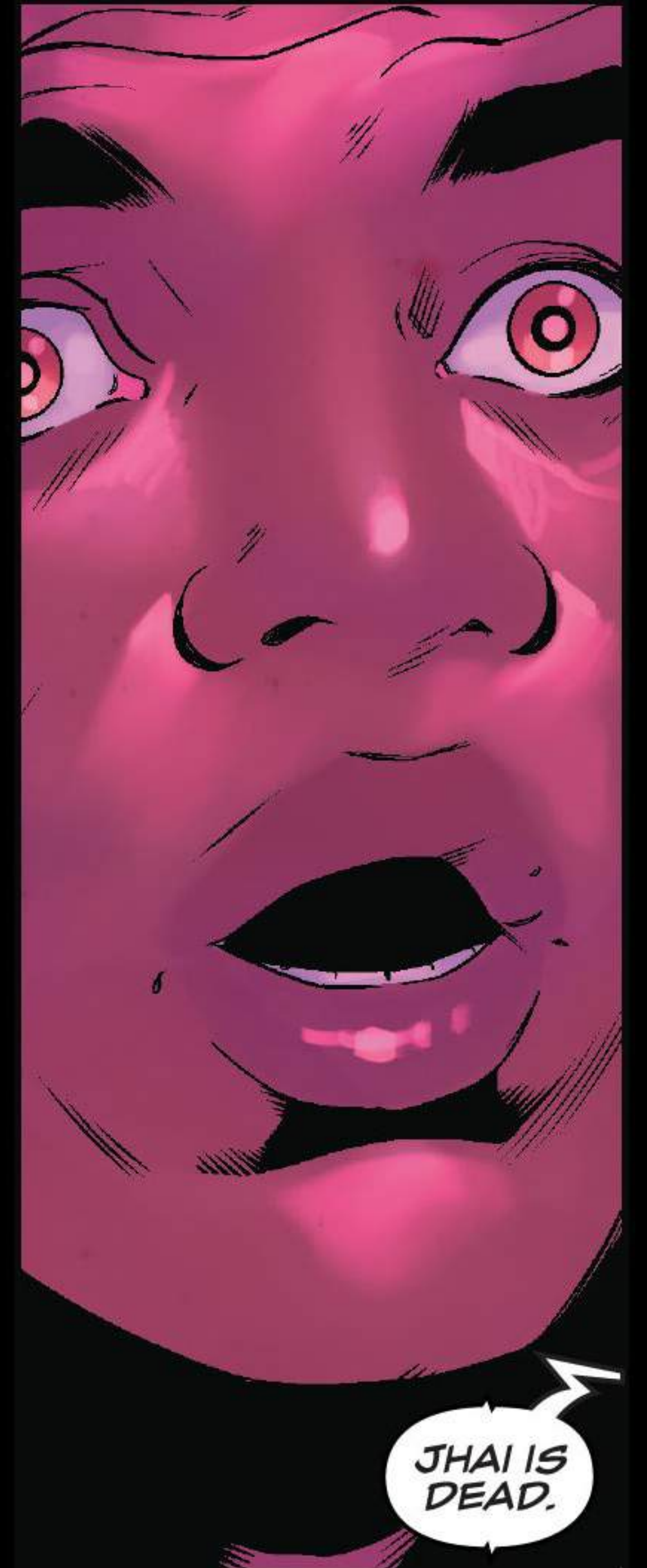
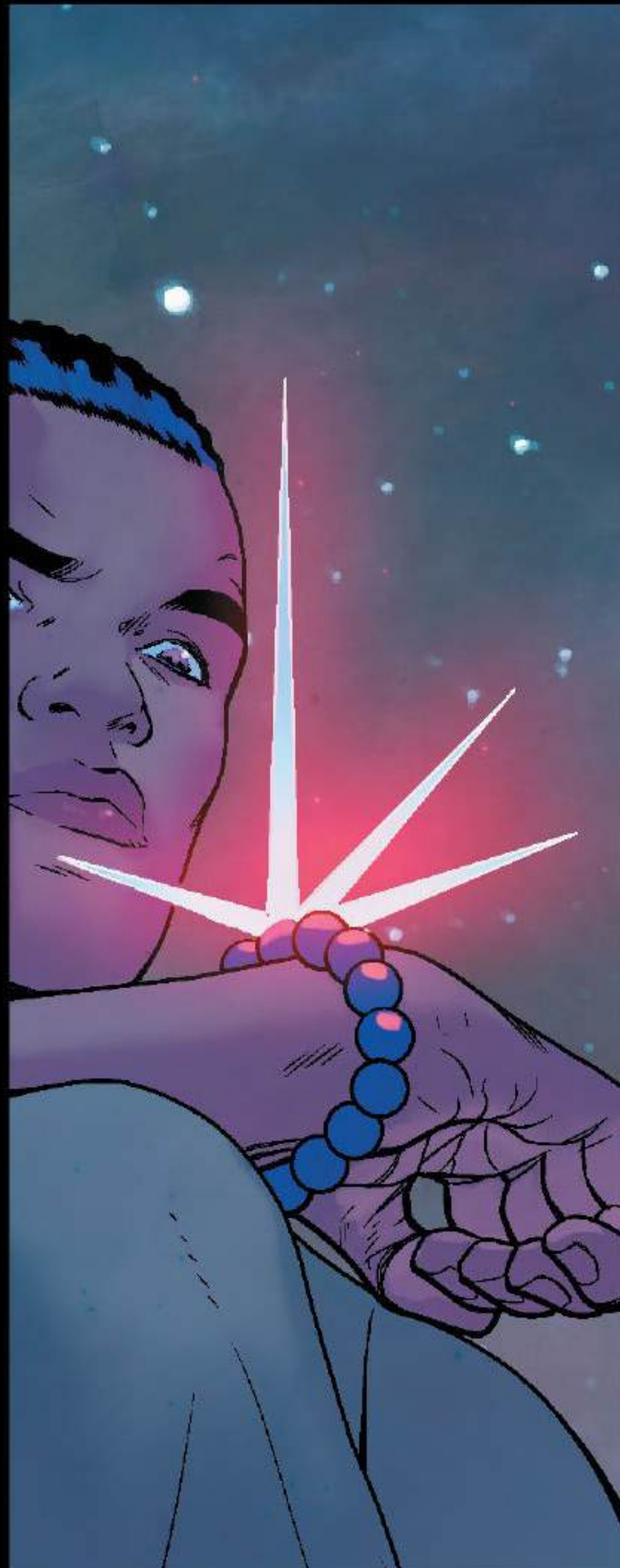
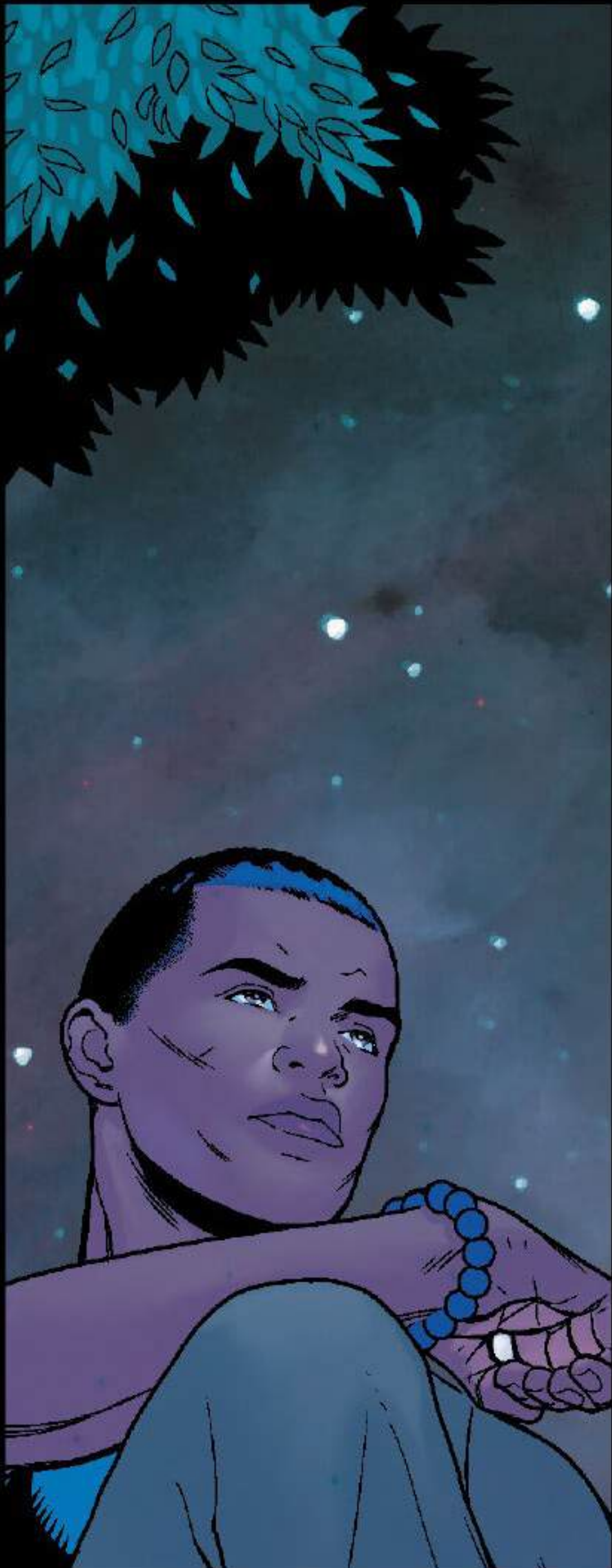


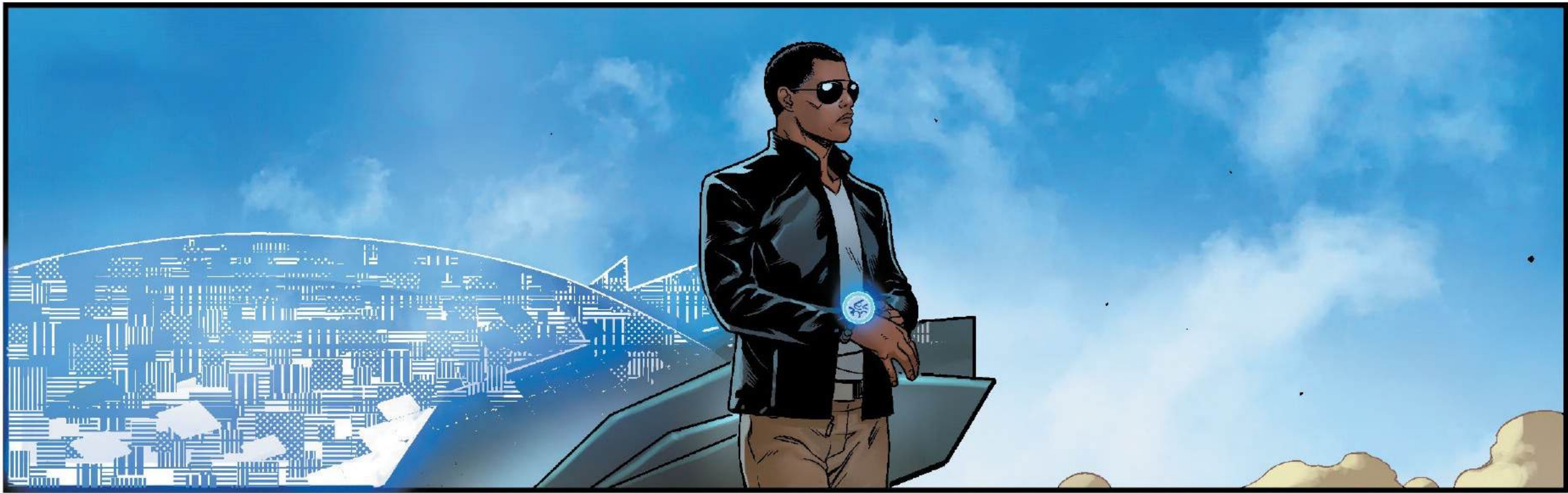
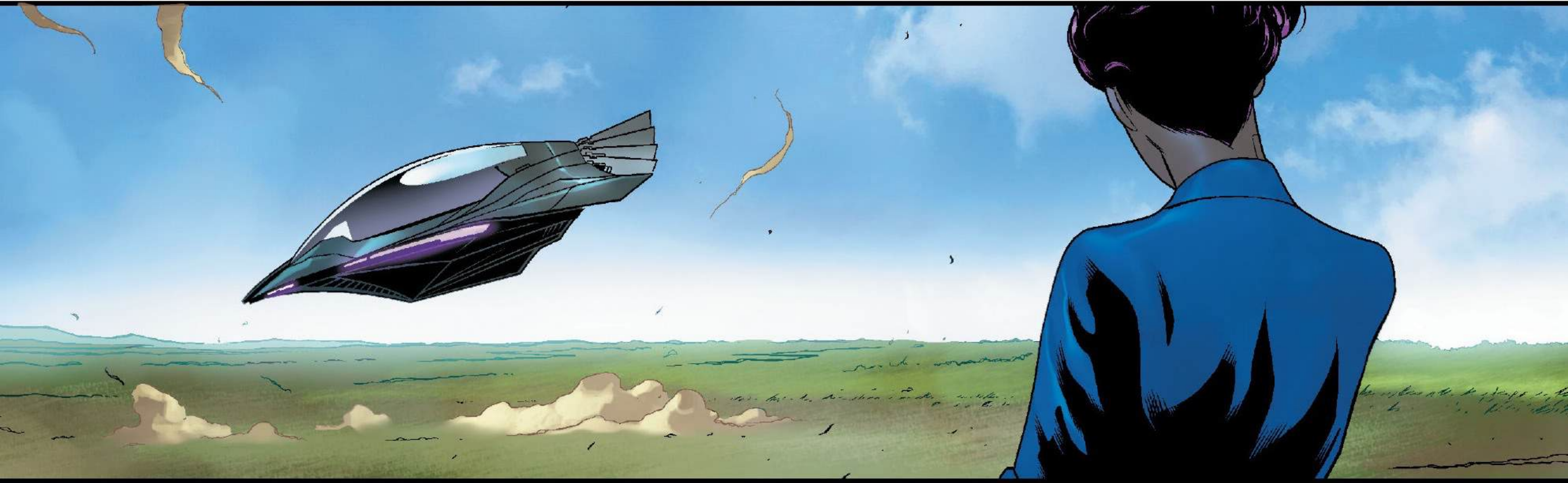


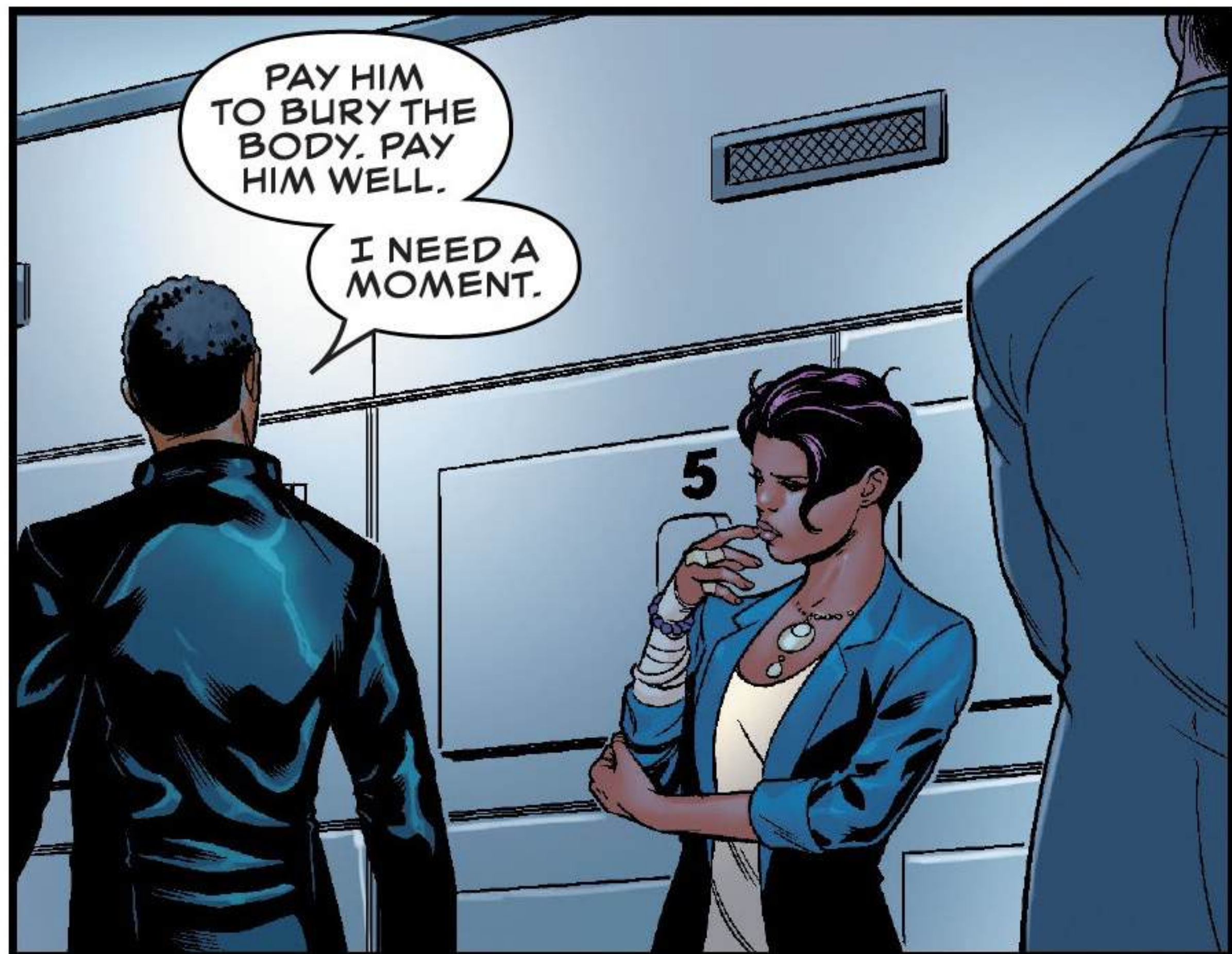
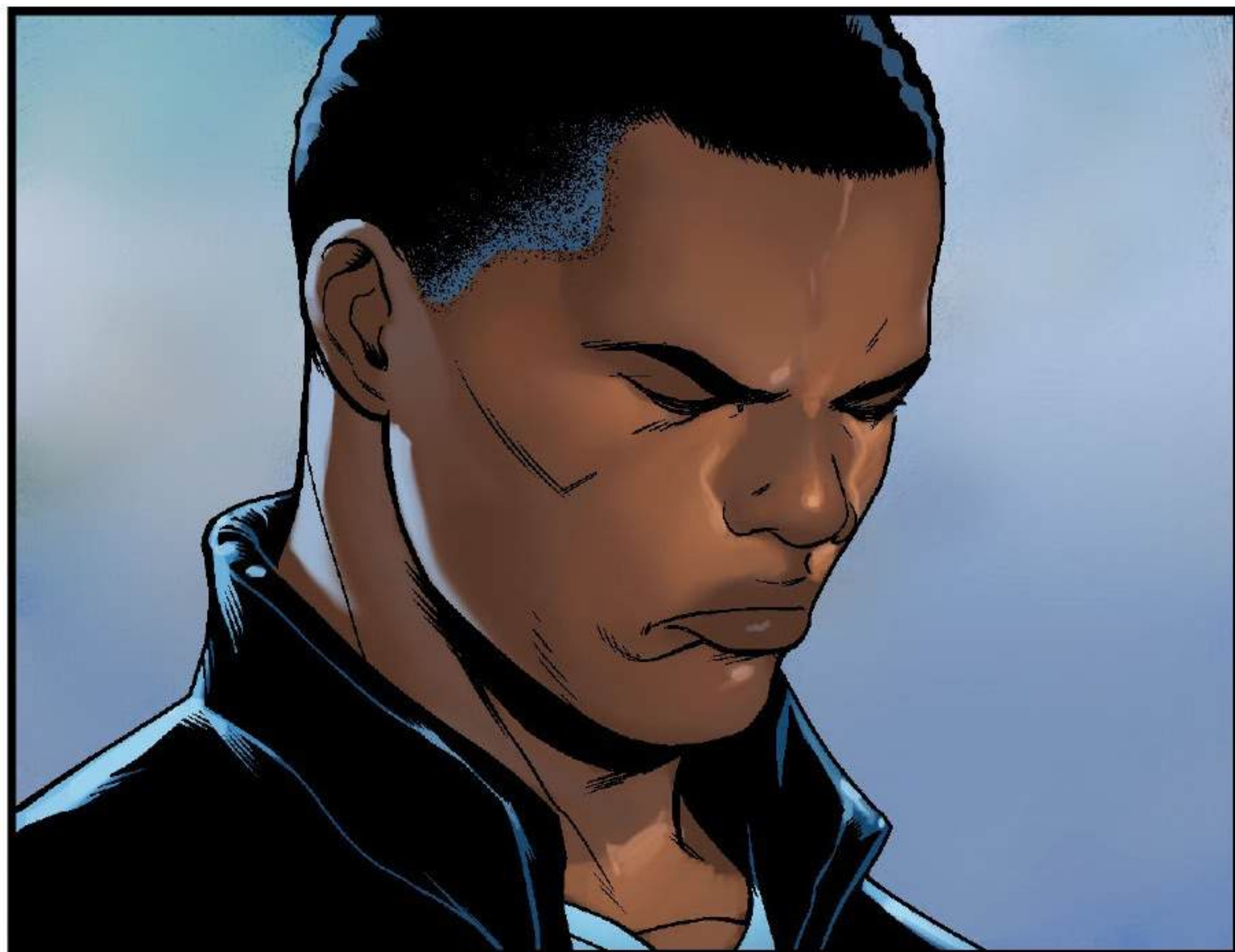
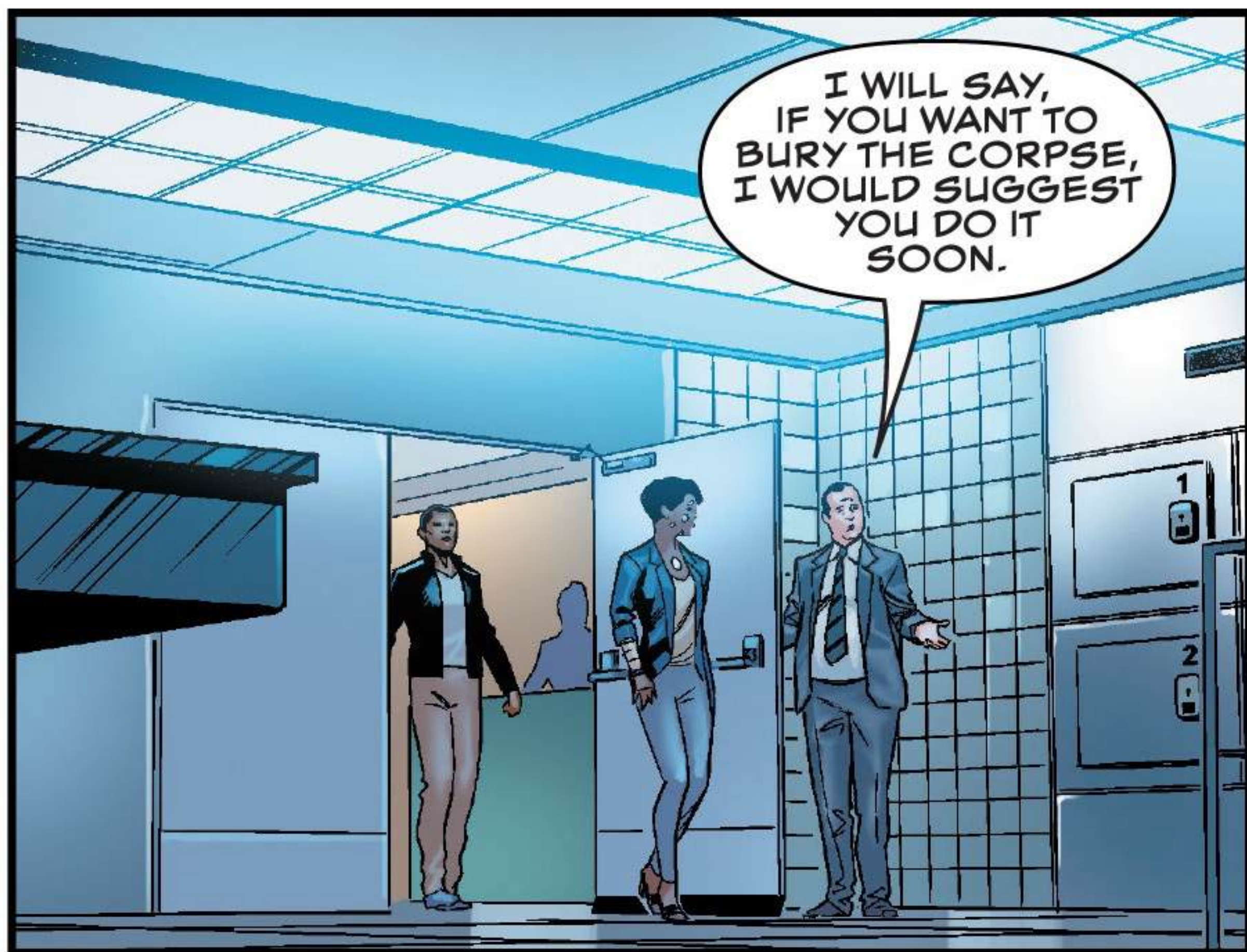


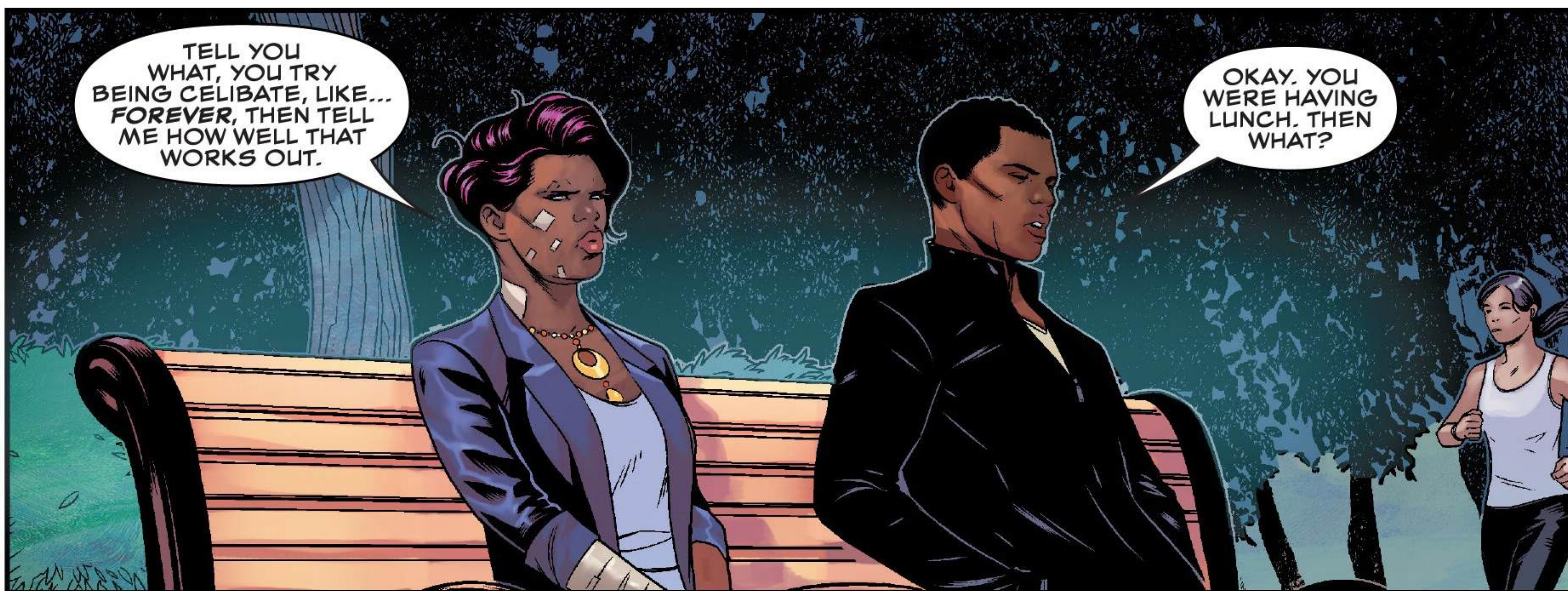
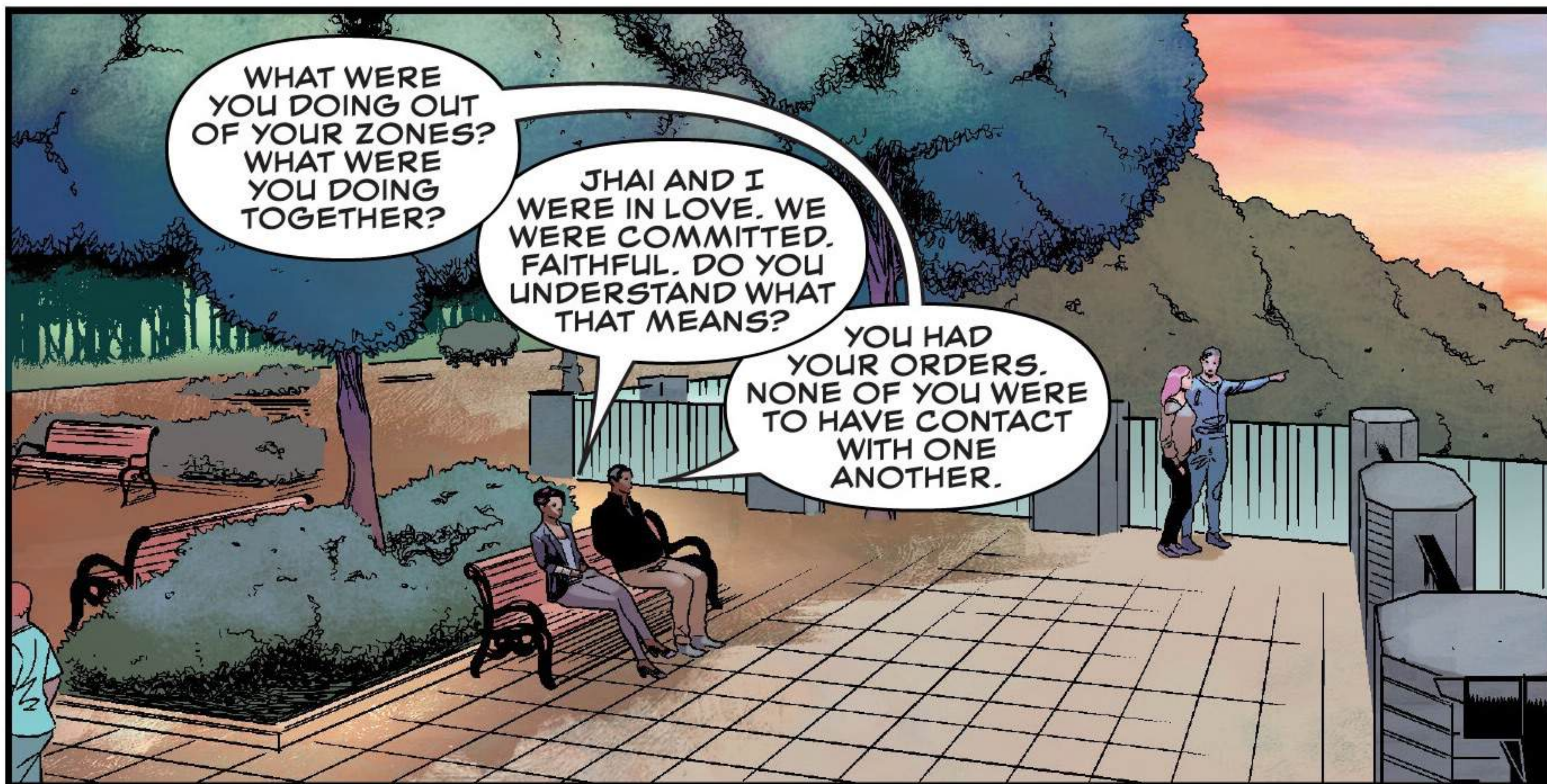


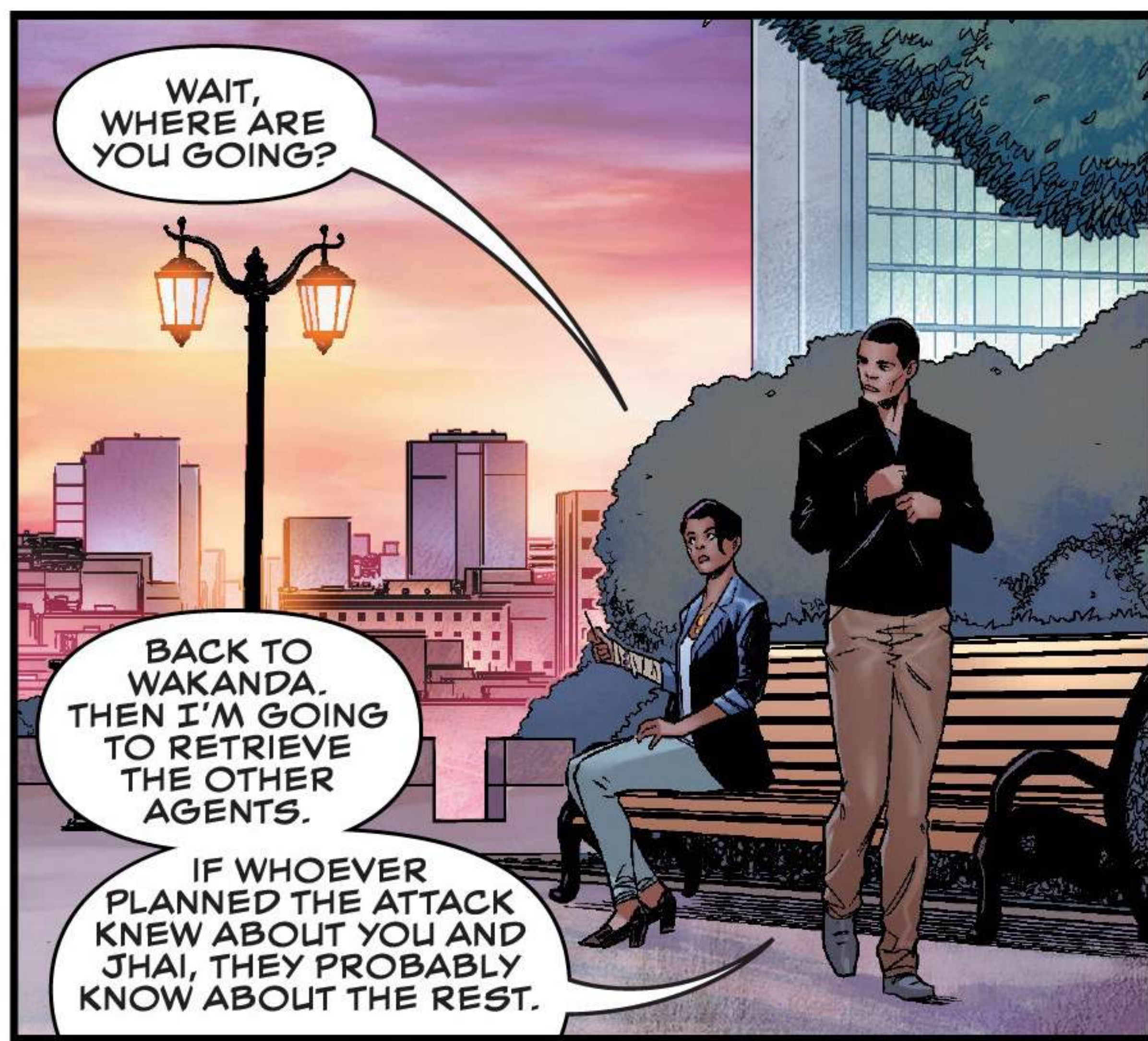












SHURI'S LAB,
WAKANDA.



SHURI,
WE NEED TO
TALK.

WHAT'S
UP?

WE
NEED TO TALK
PRIVATELY. VERY
PRIVATELY.



...OKAY...



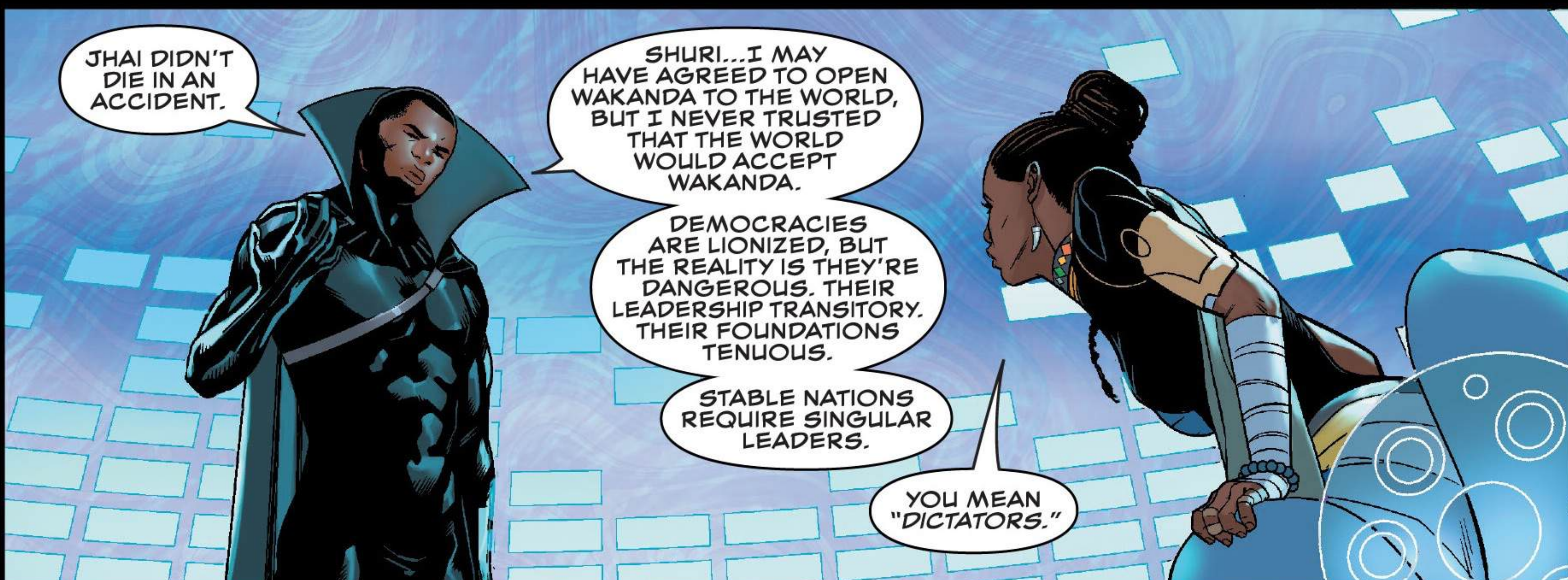
BRINGING
UP ACOUSTIC
SHIELDING AND
SOUND ISOLATION.
WE'RE SILENT TO
THE WORLD.

WHAT I'M
TELLING YOU,
NO ONE ELSE
KNOWS.

JHAI IS
DEAD.



JHAI...? OF
COURSE HE'S
DEAD. HE DIED
YEARS AGO.
THE BOATING
ACCIDENT.



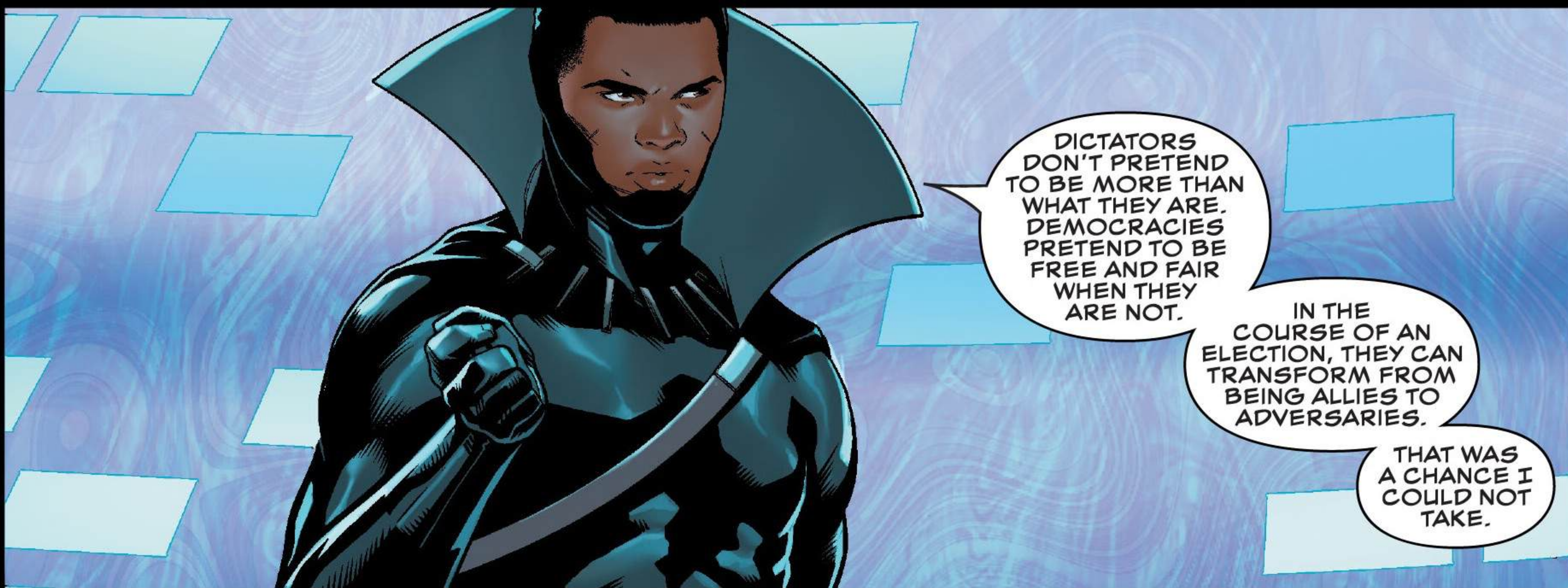
JHAI DIDN'T
DIE IN AN
ACCIDENT.

SHURI...I MAY
HAVE AGREED TO OPEN
WAKANDA TO THE WORLD,
BUT I NEVER TRUSTED
THAT THE WORLD
WOULD ACCEPT
WAKANDA.

DEMOCRACIES
ARE LIONIZED, BUT
THE REALITY IS THEY'RE
DANGEROUS. THEIR
LEADERSHIP TRANSITORY.
THEIR FOUNDATIONS
TENUOUS.

STABLE NATIONS
REQUIRE SINGULAR
LEADERS.

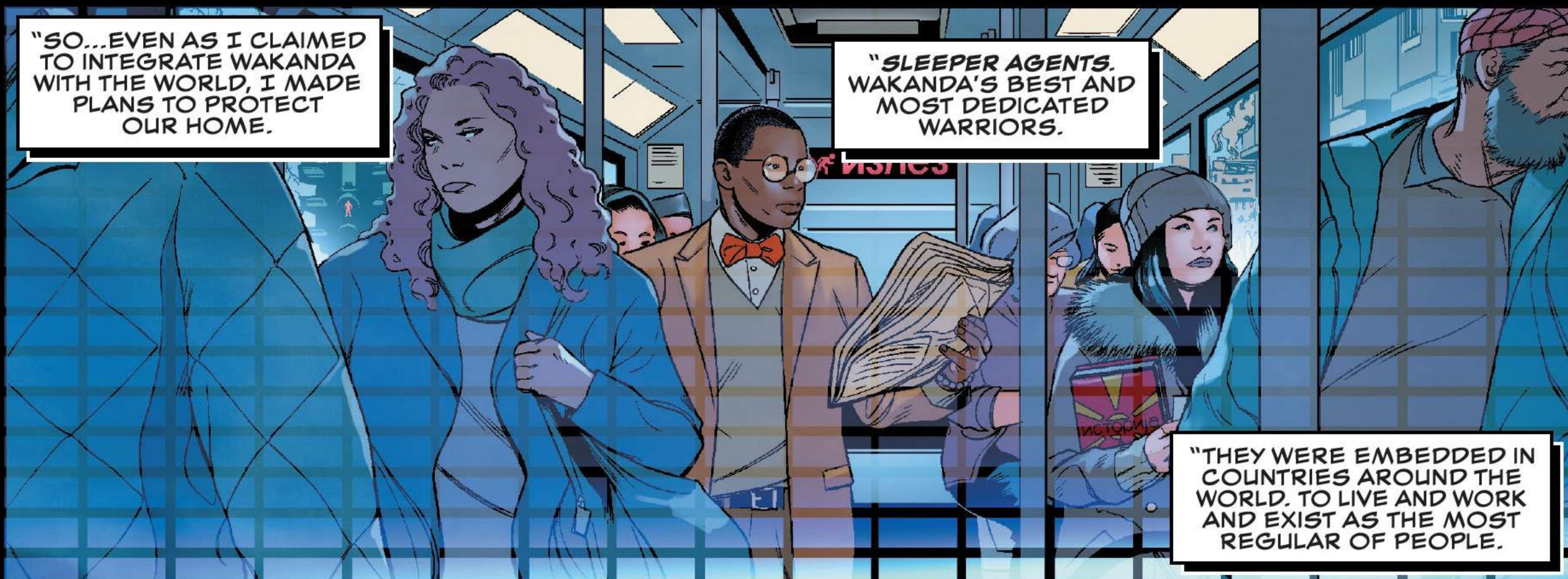
YOU MEAN
"DICTATORS."



DICTATORS
DON'T PRETEND
TO BE MORE THAN
WHAT THEY ARE.
DEMOCRACIES
PRETEND TO BE
FREE AND FAIR
WHEN THEY
ARE NOT.

IN THE
COURSE OF AN
ELECTION, THEY CAN
TRANSFORM FROM
BEING ALLIES TO
ADVERSARIES.

THAT WAS
A CHANCE I
COULD NOT
TAKE.



"SO...EVEN AS I CLAIMED TO INTEGRATE WAKANDA WITH THE WORLD, I MADE PLANS TO PROTECT OUR HOME.

"SLEEPER AGENTS. WAKANDA'S BEST AND MOST DEDICATED WARRIORS.

"THEY WERE EMBEDDED IN COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. TO LIVE AND WORK AND EXIST AS THE MOST REGULAR OF PEOPLE.



"BUT IF WAKANDA WAS EVER THREATENED, ON MY ORDER ALONE, THEY WERE TO ENGAGE IN A GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN.

"INFILTRATION, DESTRUCTION AND ASSASSINATION AGAINST ANYONE OR ANY NATION THAT THREATENED WAKANDA."



JHAI WAS AMONG THEM-- WAKANDANS WHO "DIED" IN VARIOUS ACCIDENTS OVER THE YEARS TO BE "REBORN" AS OUR PROTECTORS ELSEWHERE.

HOW MANY OF THESE AGENTS ARE THERE?

TEN.



YOU FAKED THE DEATHS OF TEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS AND SENT THEM OUT INTO THE WORLD TO JUST... WAIT?

WAIT FOR YOU TO TELL THEM TO ASSASSINATE PEOPLE?

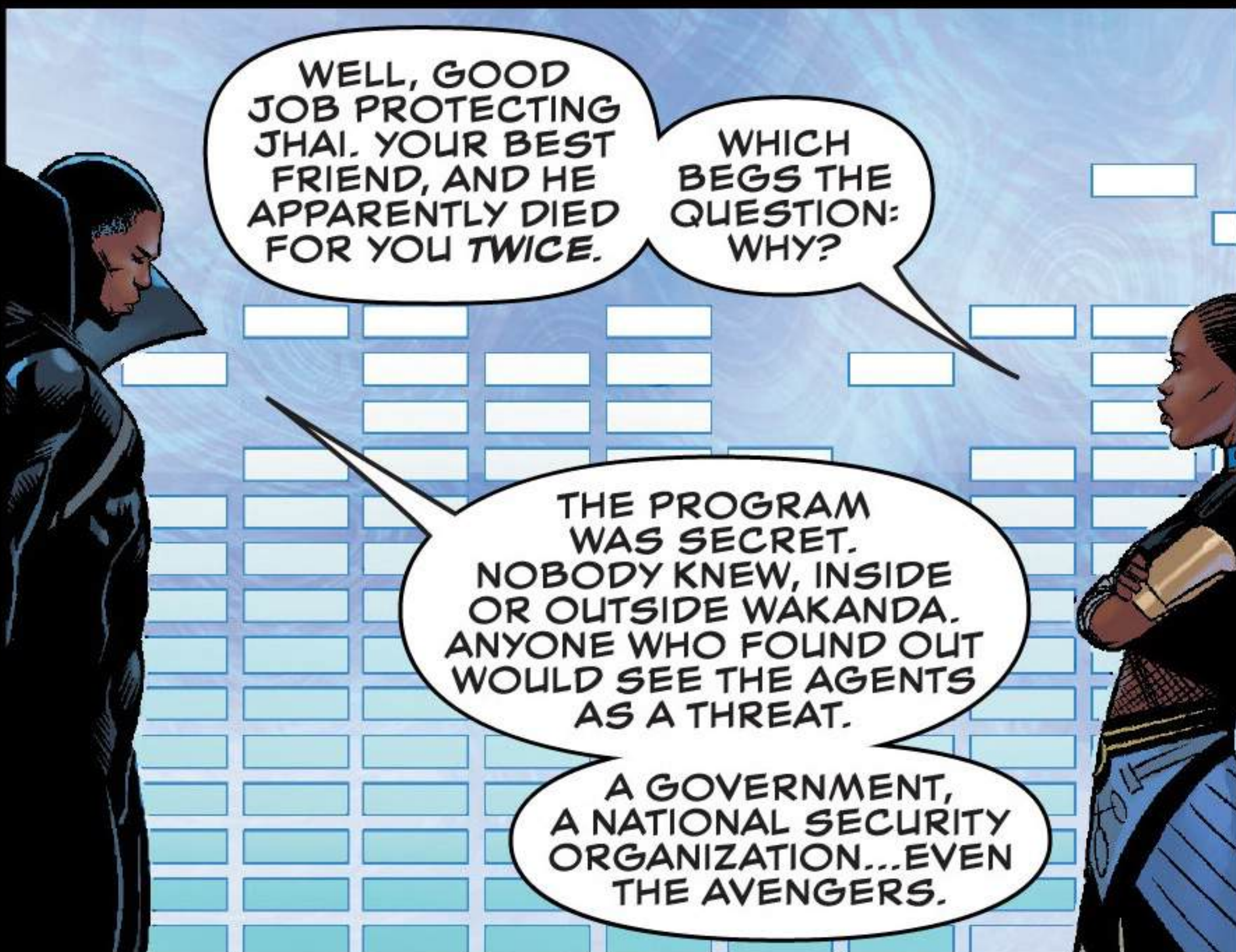


I DID WHAT I THOUGHT WAS RIGHT TO SECURE WAKANDA.

SECURE WAKANDA AGAINST WHAT? A THREAT THAT EXISTS ONLY IN YOUR HEAD?

THERE'S A WORD FOR THAT. IT'S CALLED "PARANOIA."

IT'S CALLED "LEADERSHIP." A LEADER PROTECTS HIS PEOPLE.

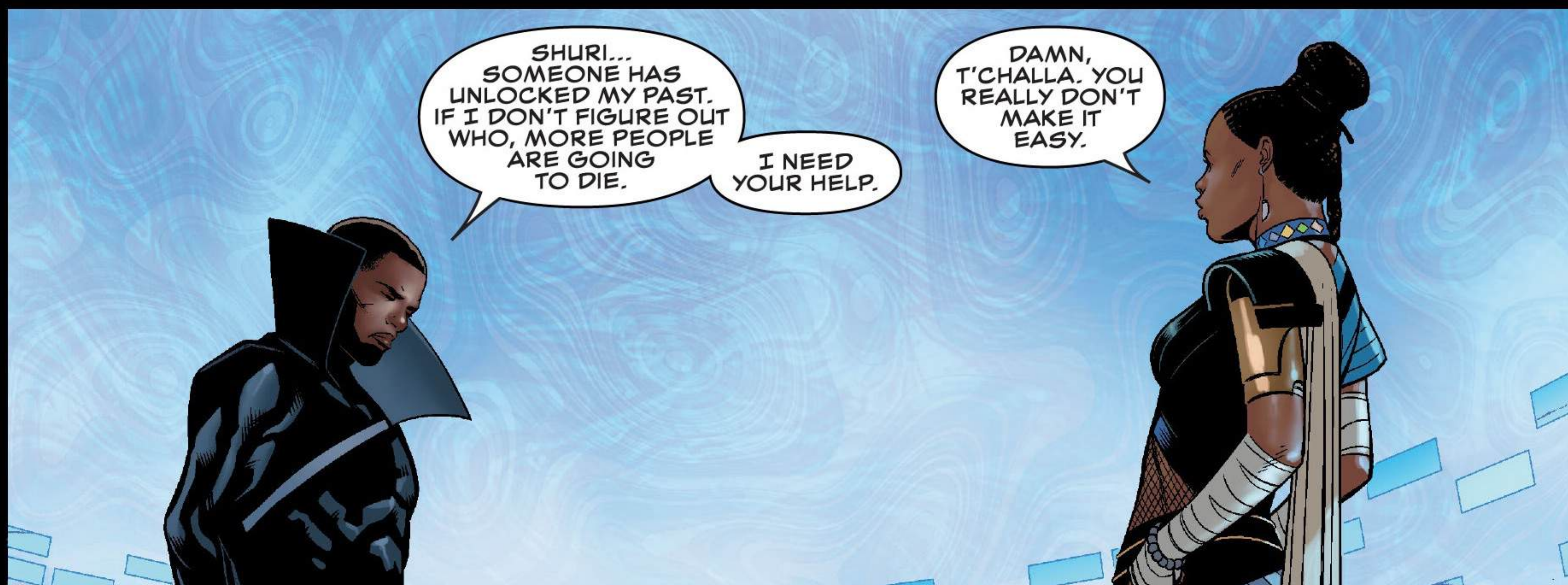
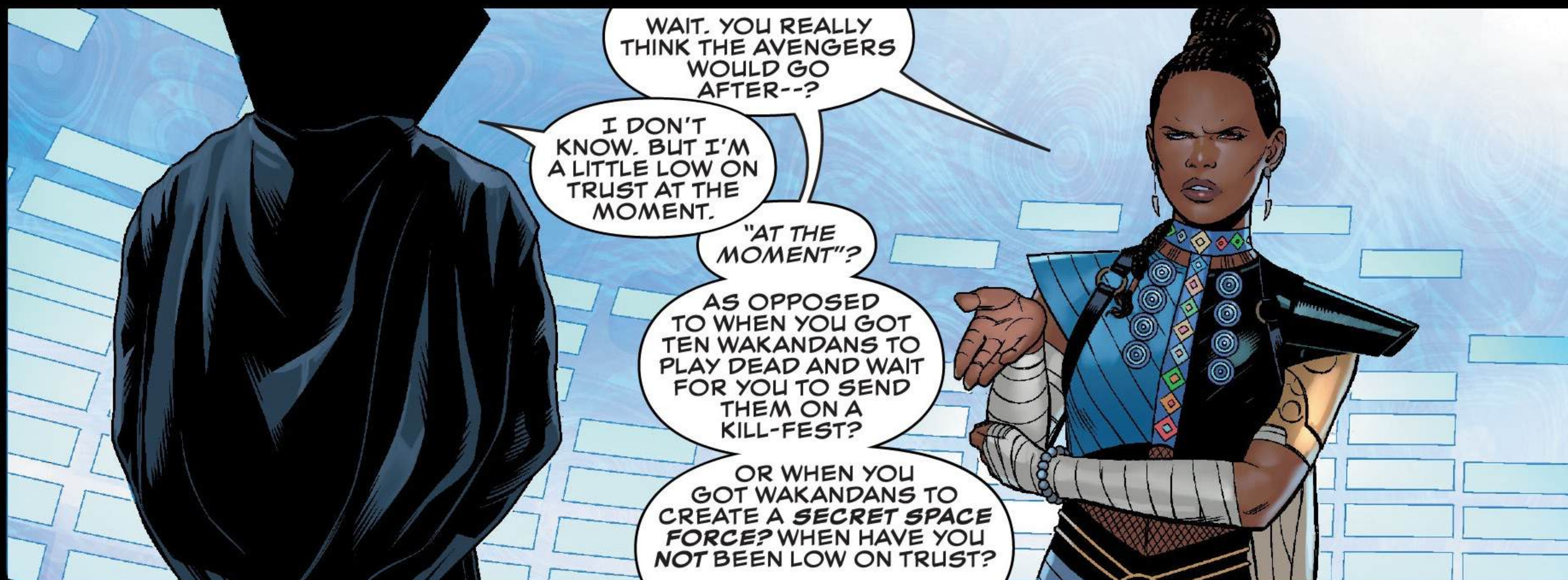


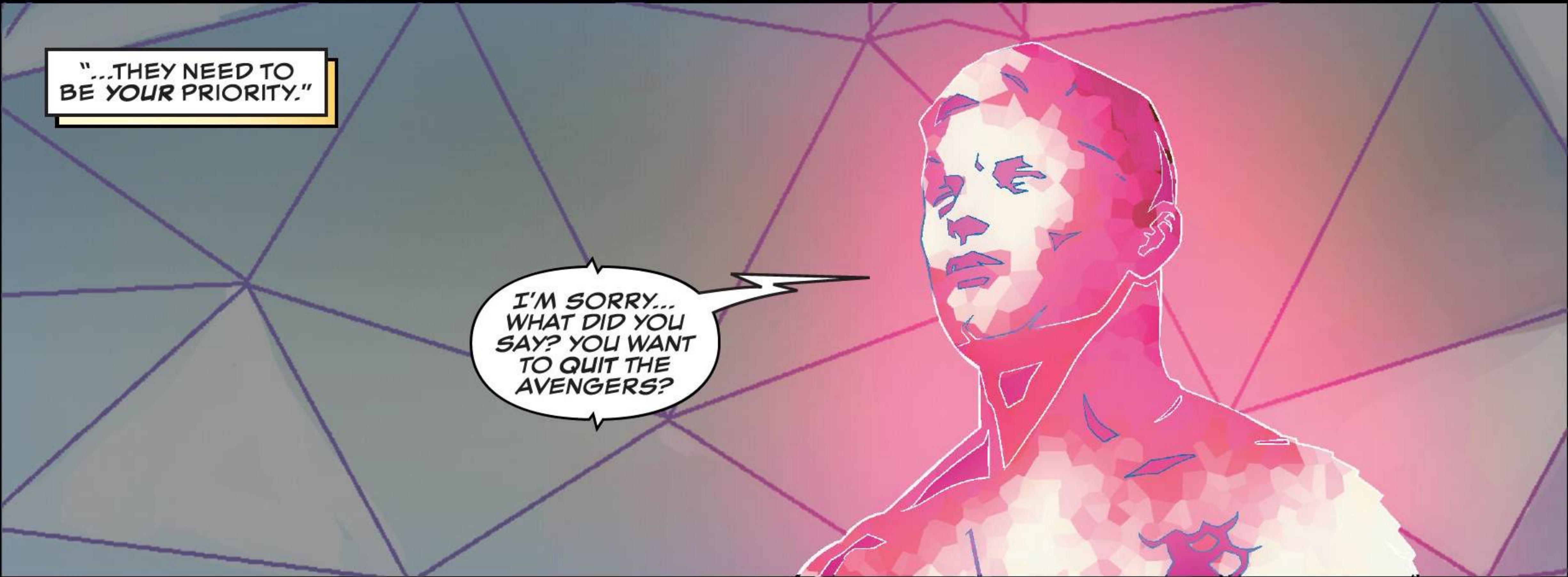
WELL, GOOD JOB PROTECTING JHAI, YOUR BEST FRIEND, AND HE APPARENTLY DIED FOR YOU TWICE.

WHICH BEGS THE QUESTION: WHY?

THE PROGRAM WAS SECRET. NOBODY KNEW, INSIDE OR OUTSIDE WAKANDA. ANYONE WHO FOUND OUT WOULD SEE THE AGENTS AS A THREAT.

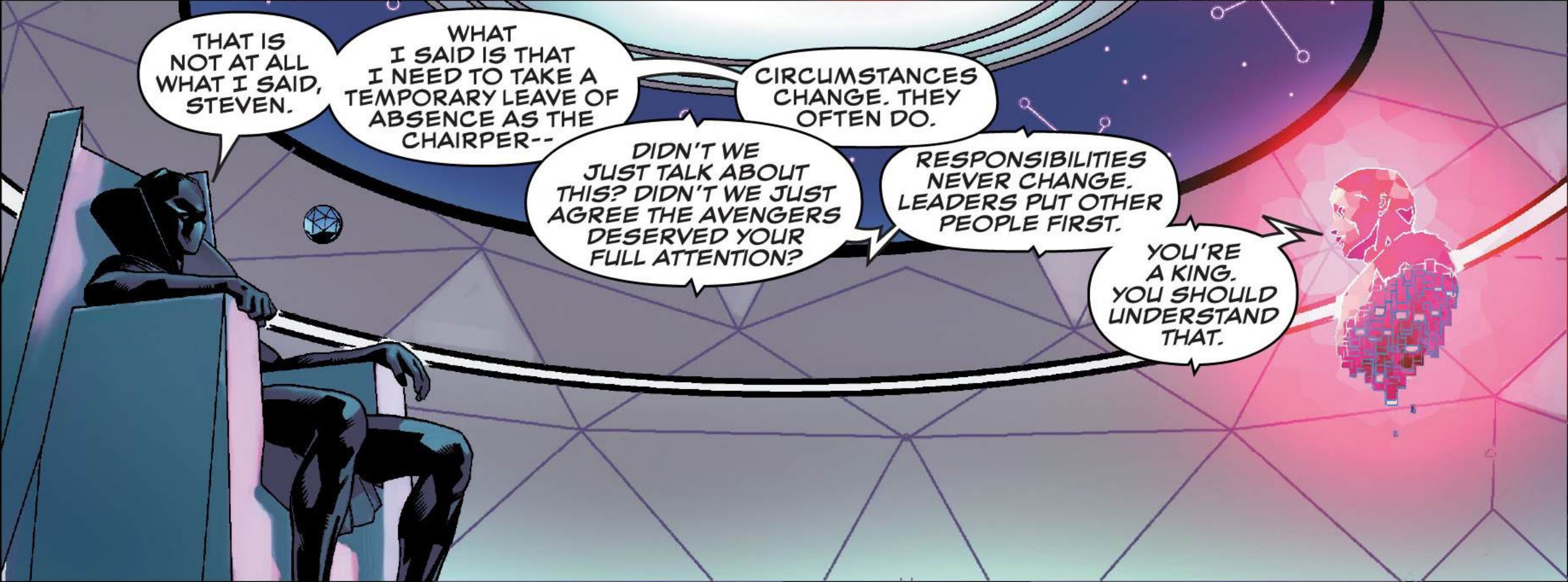
A GOVERNMENT, A NATIONAL SECURITY ORGANIZATION...EVEN THE AVENGERS.





"...THEY NEED TO BE YOUR PRIORITY."

I'M SORRY...
WHAT DID YOU SAY? YOU WANT TO QUIT THE AVENGERS?



THAT IS NOT AT ALL WHAT I SAID, STEVEN.

WHAT I SAID IS THAT I NEED TO TAKE A TEMPORARY LEAVE OF ABSENCE AS THE CHAIRPER--

CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE. THEY OFTEN DO.

DIDN'T WE JUST TALK ABOUT THIS? DIDN'T WE JUST AGREE THE AVENGERS DESERVED YOUR FULL ATTENTION?

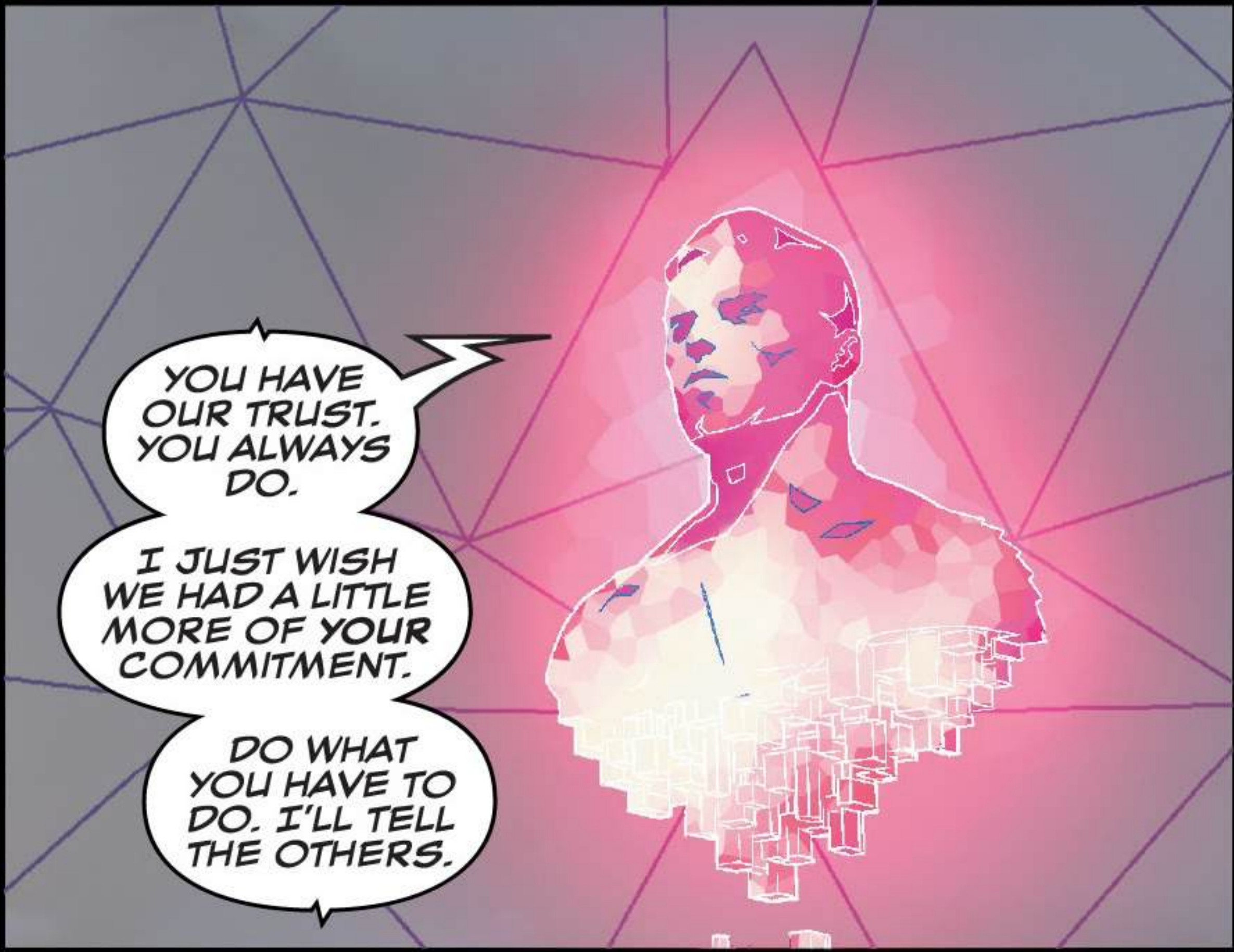
RESPONSIBILITIES NEVER CHANGE. LEADERS PUT OTHER PEOPLE FIRST.

YOU'RE A KING. YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT.



I UNDERSTAND MORE THAN YOU KNOW. AND I WOULD NOT TAKE THIS LEAVE IF I WERE NOT PUTTING OTHERS FIRST.

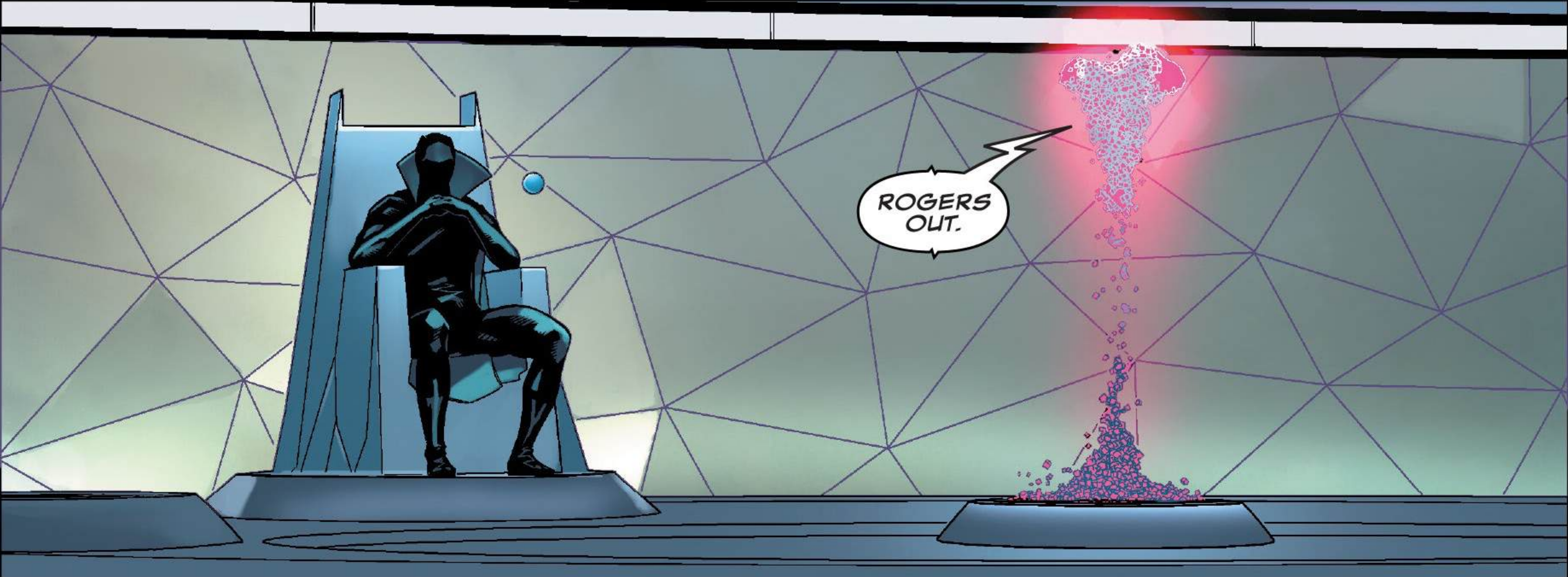
I ASK YOU TO...TRUST THAT.



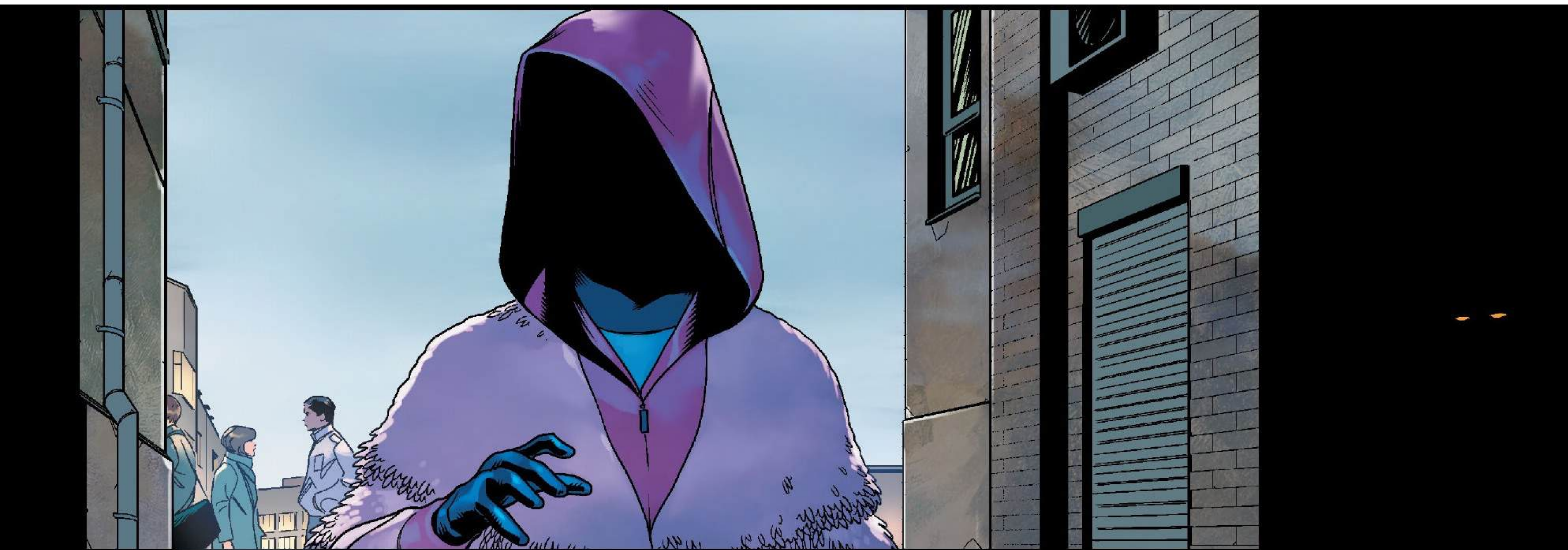
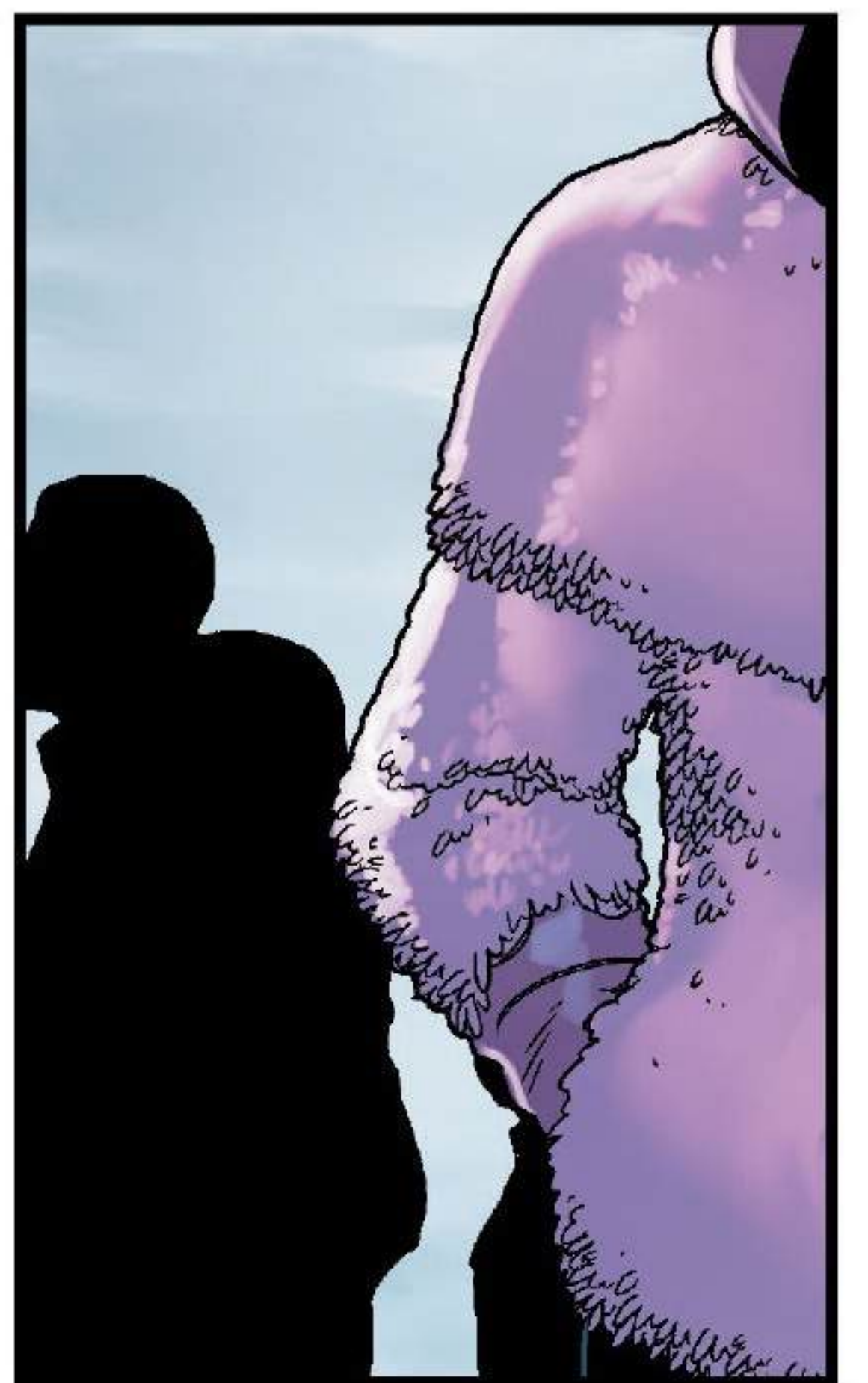
YOU HAVE OUR TRUST. YOU ALWAYS DO.

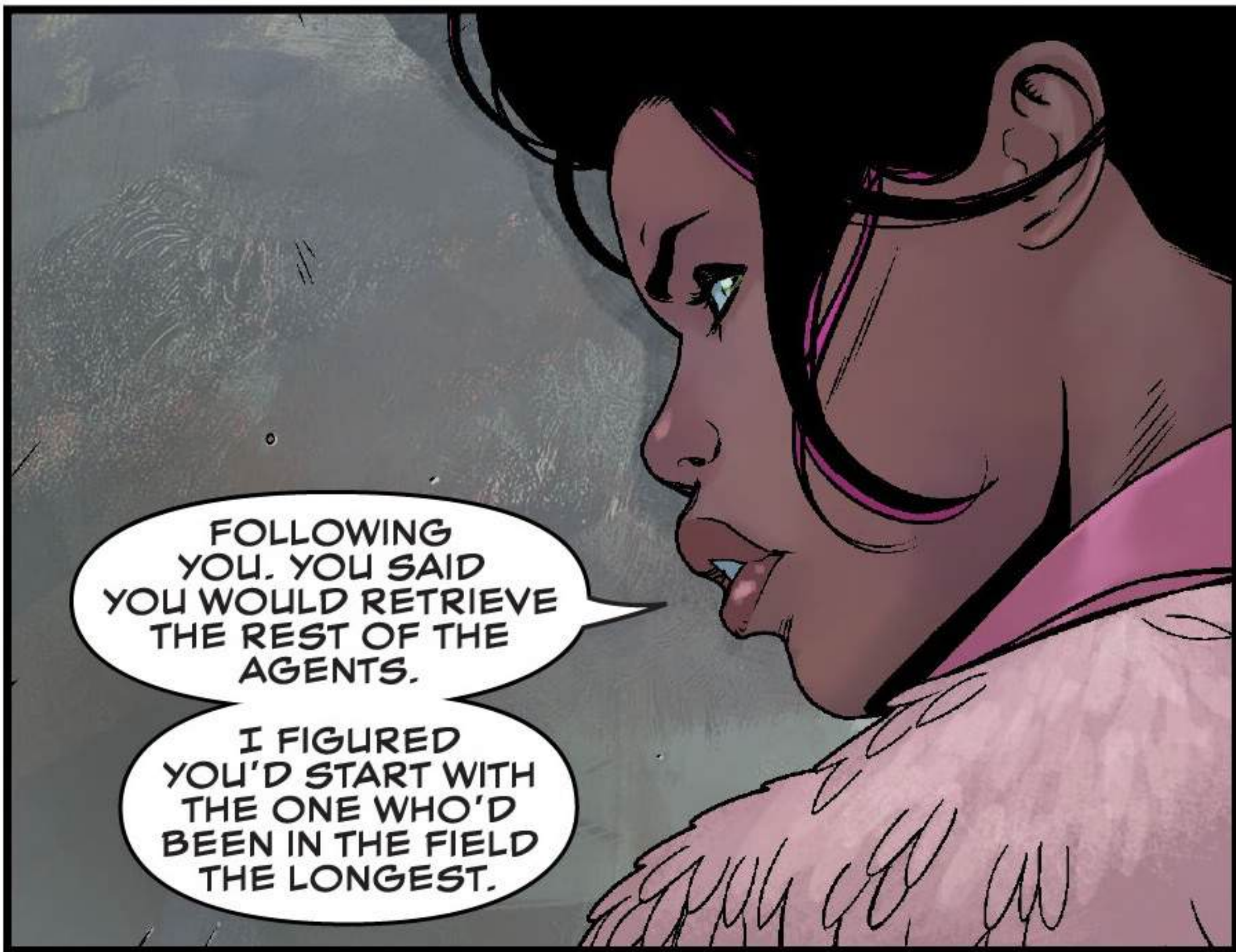
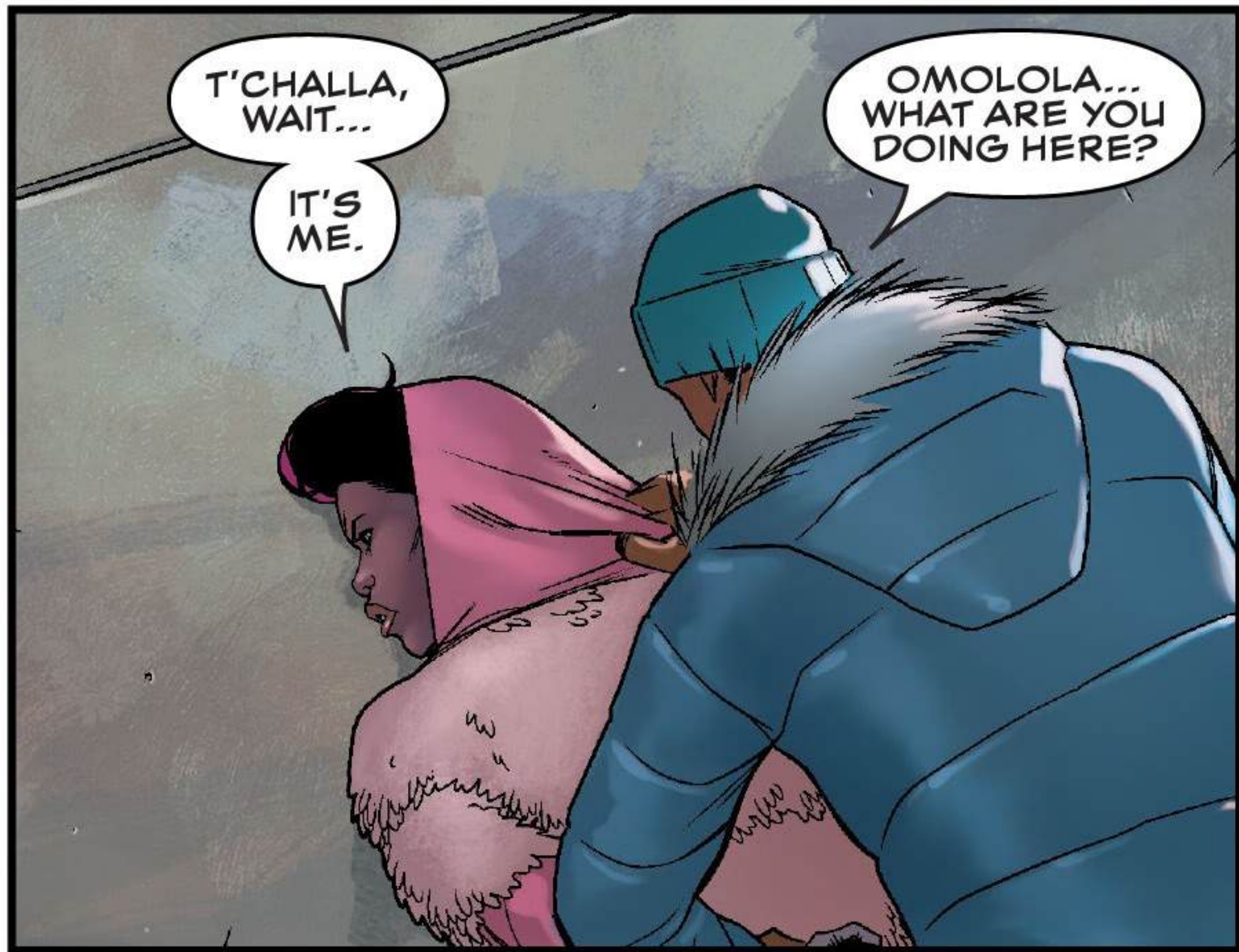
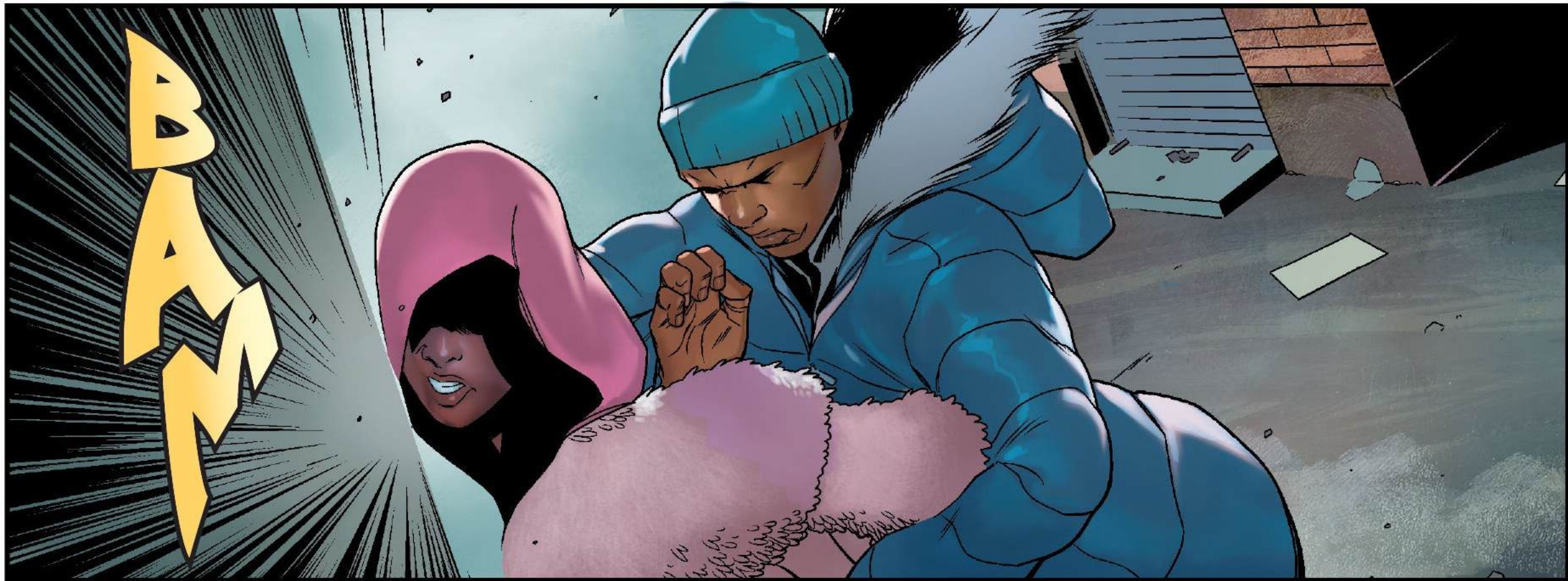
I JUST WISH WE HAD A LITTLE MORE OF YOUR COMMITMENT.

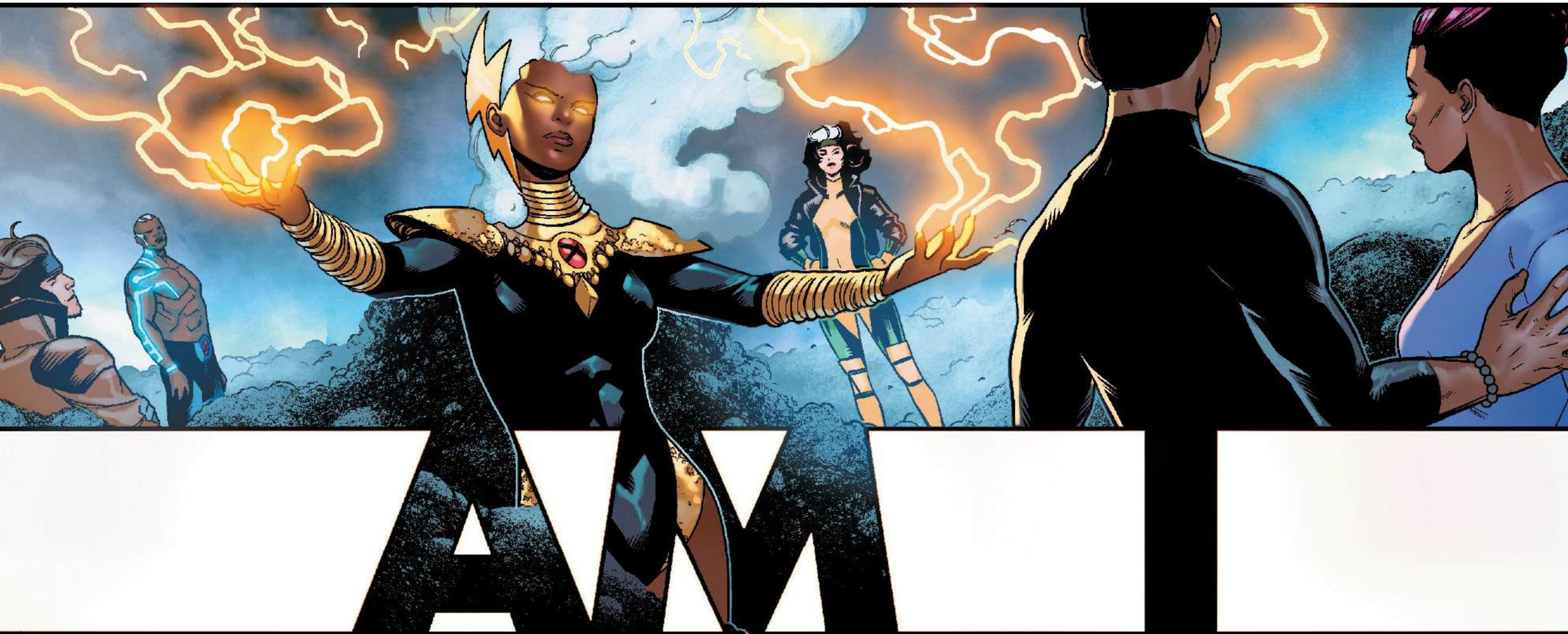
DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO. I'LL TELL THE OTHERS.



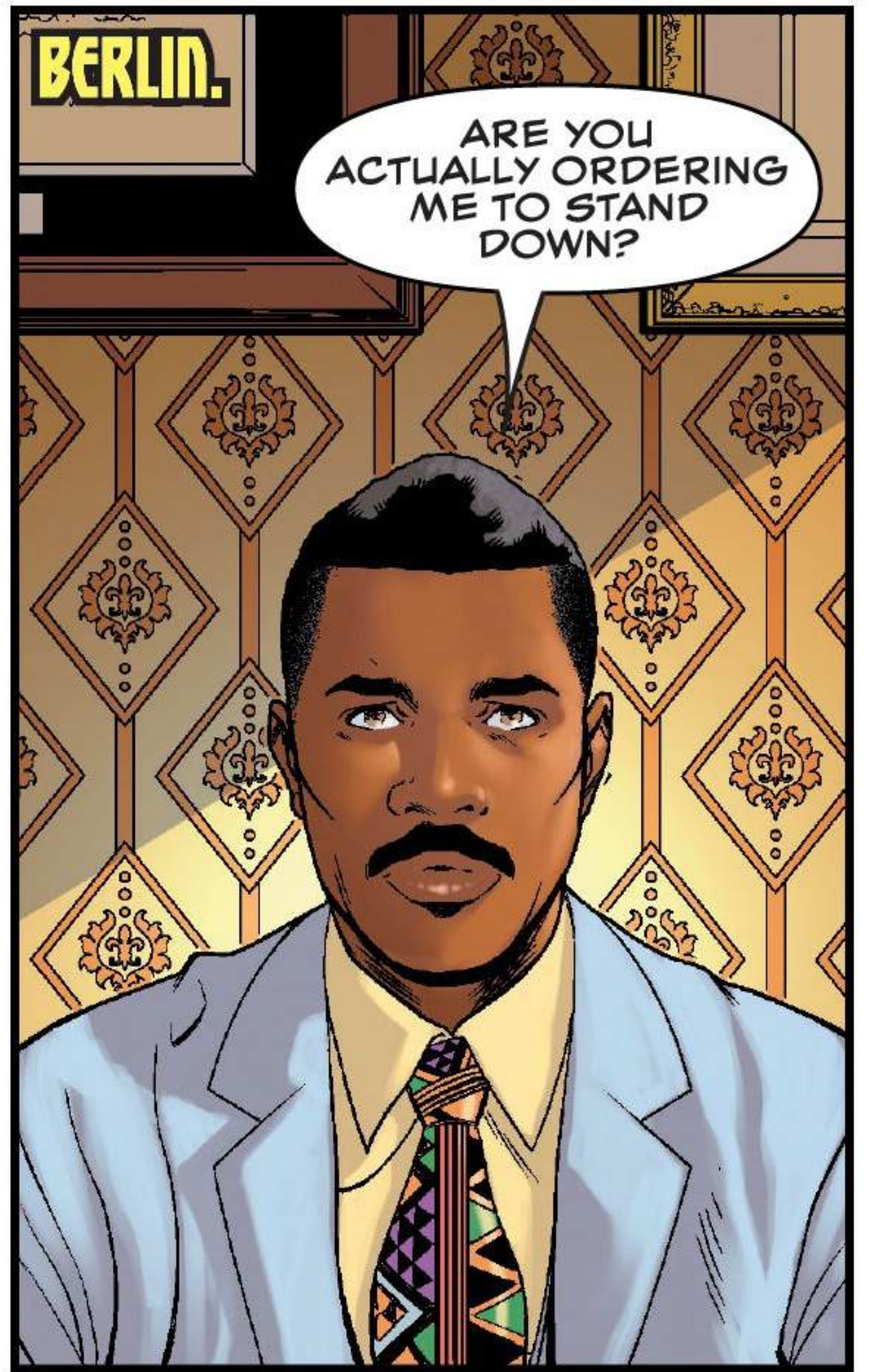
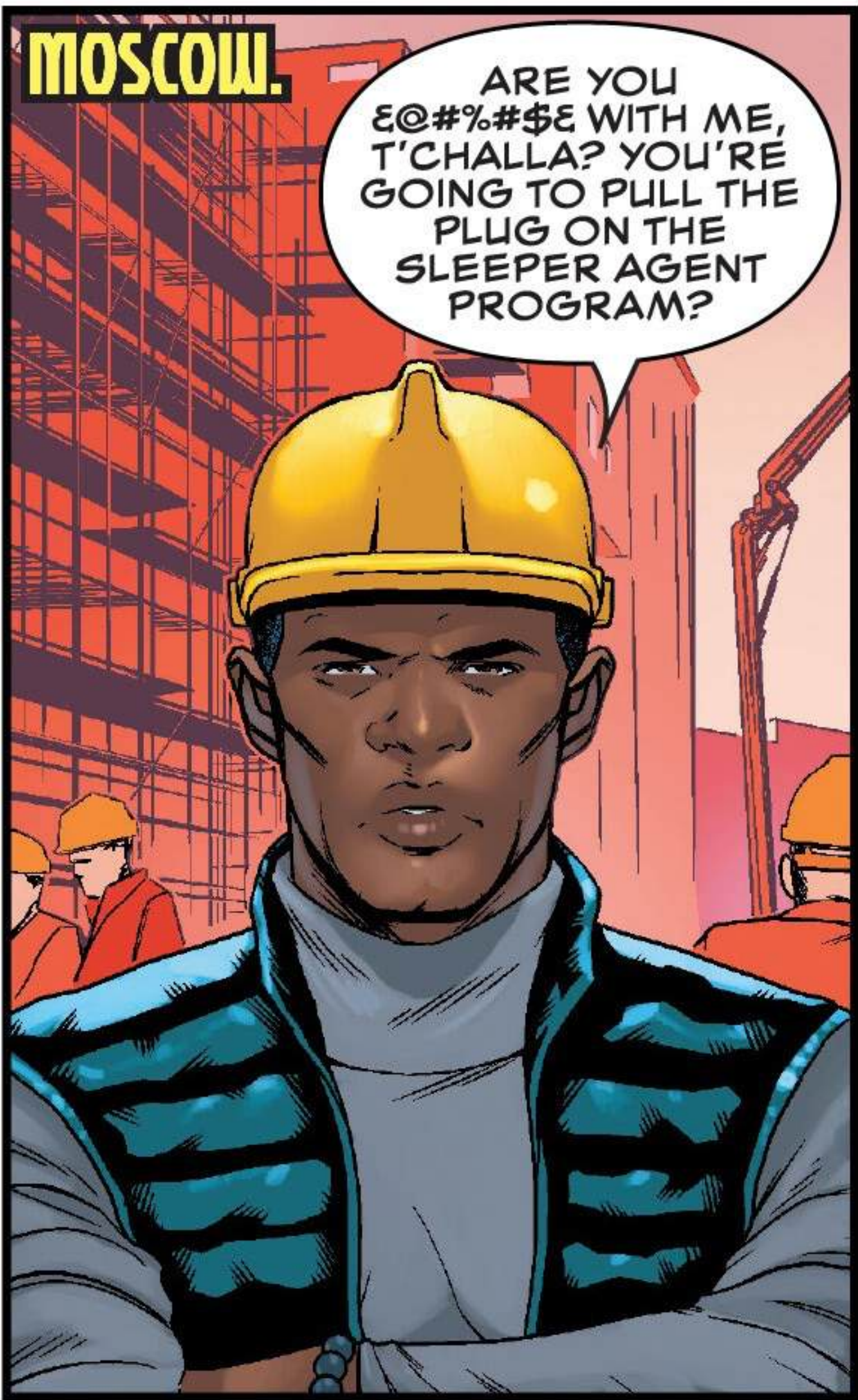
ROGERS OUT.

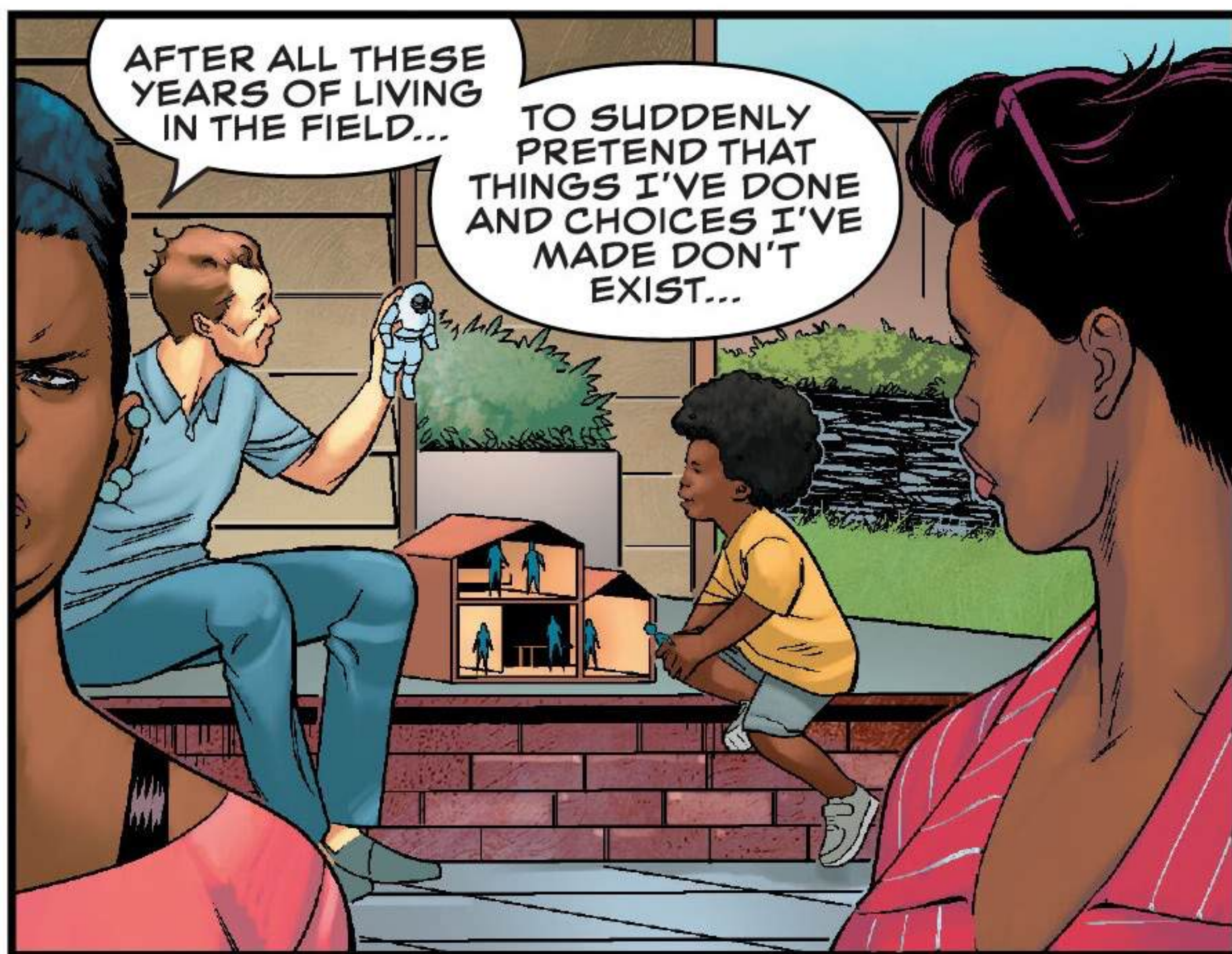


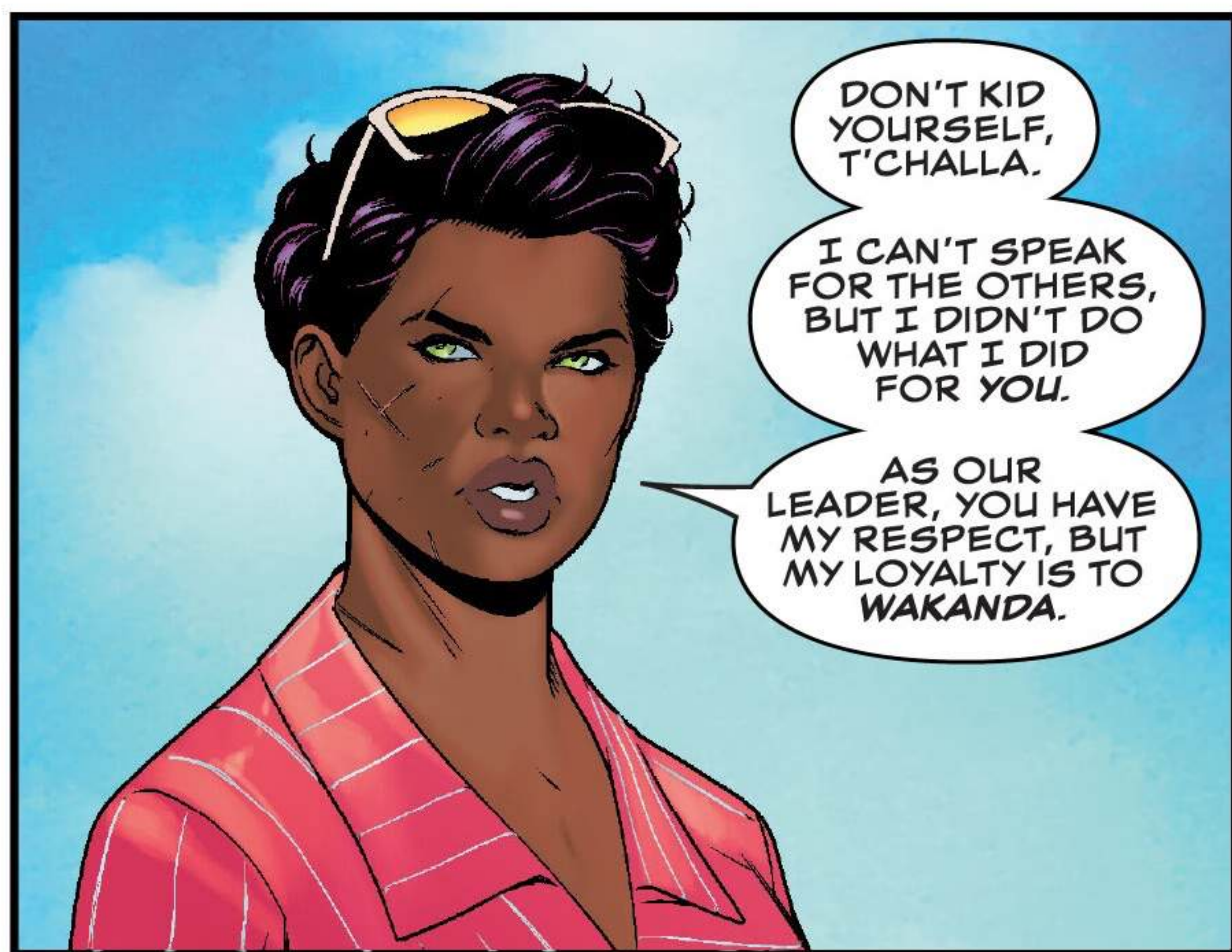
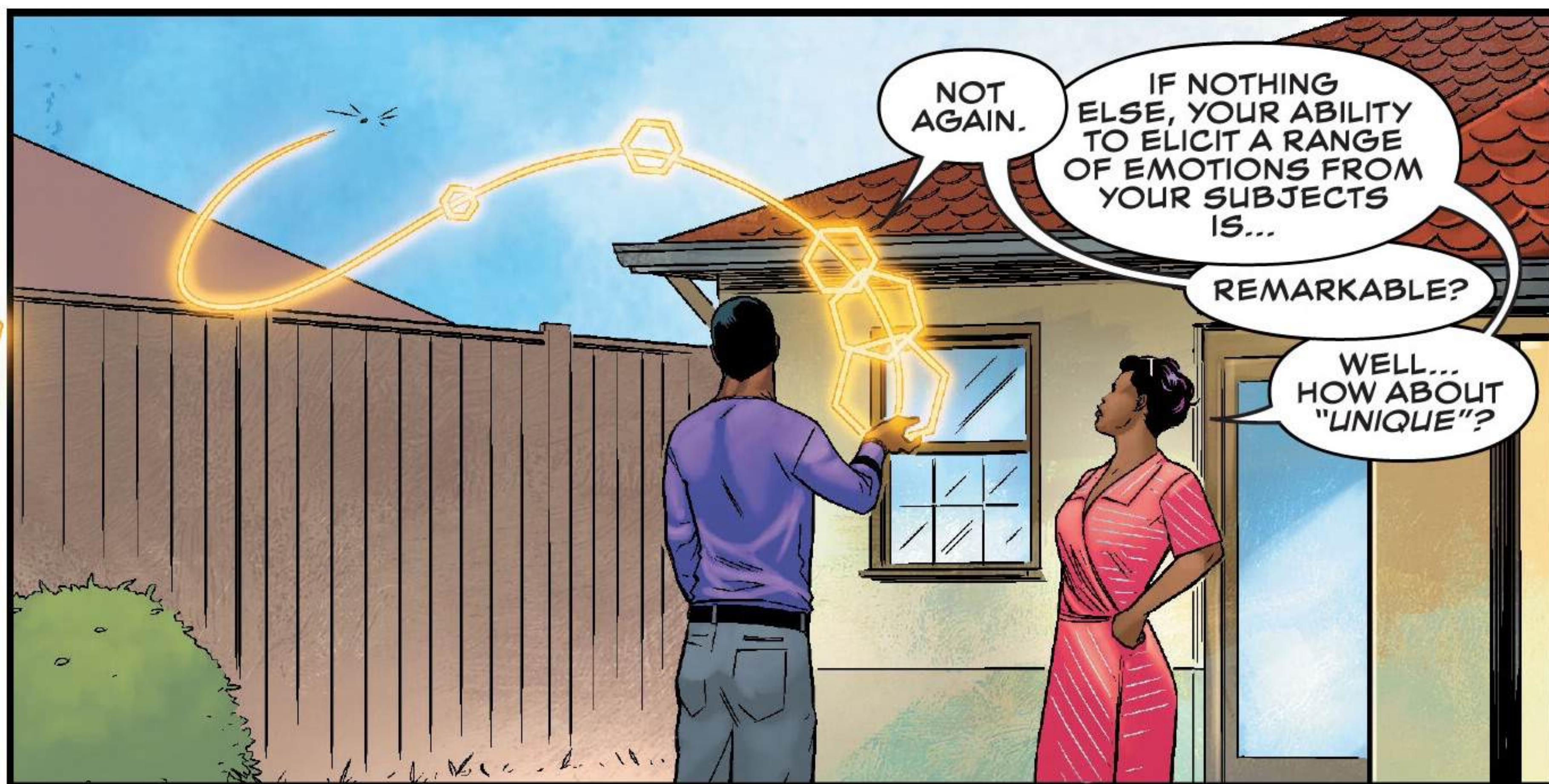


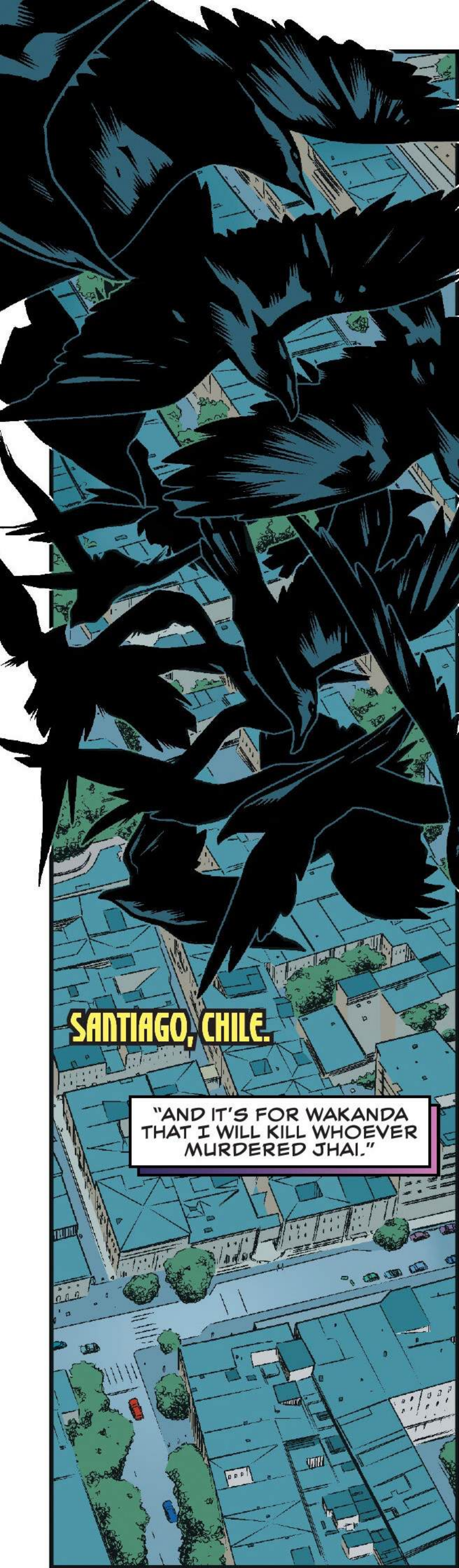












SANTIAGO, CHILE.

"AND IT'S FOR WAKANDA THAT I WILL KILL WHOEVER MURDERED JHAI."



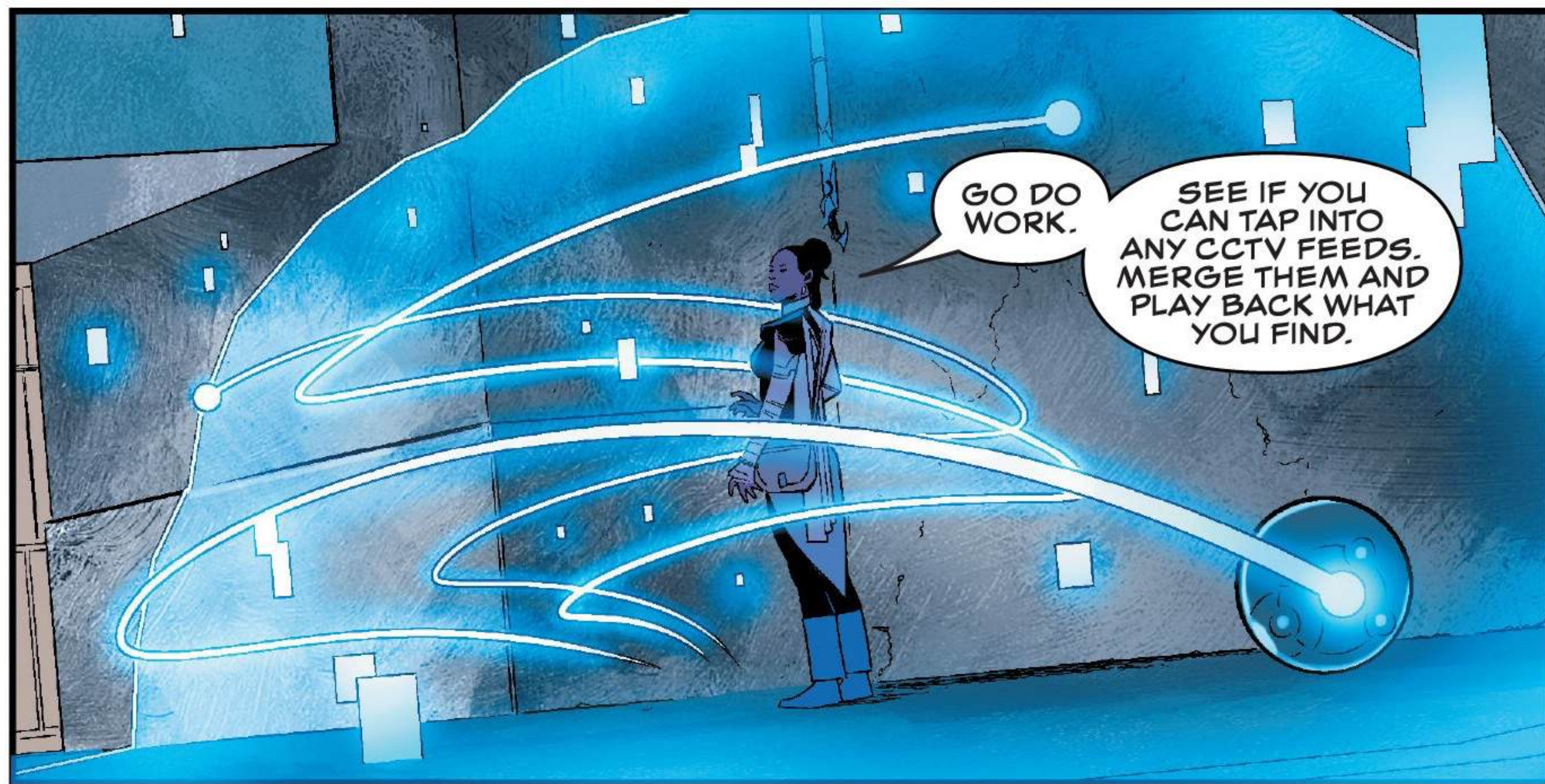
WELL, THIS SUCKS. ALWAYS TOO BUSY BEING "PRINCESS SHURI" TO DO MUCH TRAVELING, SO WHEN I FINALLY GET TO VISIT CHILE...



...ALL I GET TO SEE IS AN ALLEY.

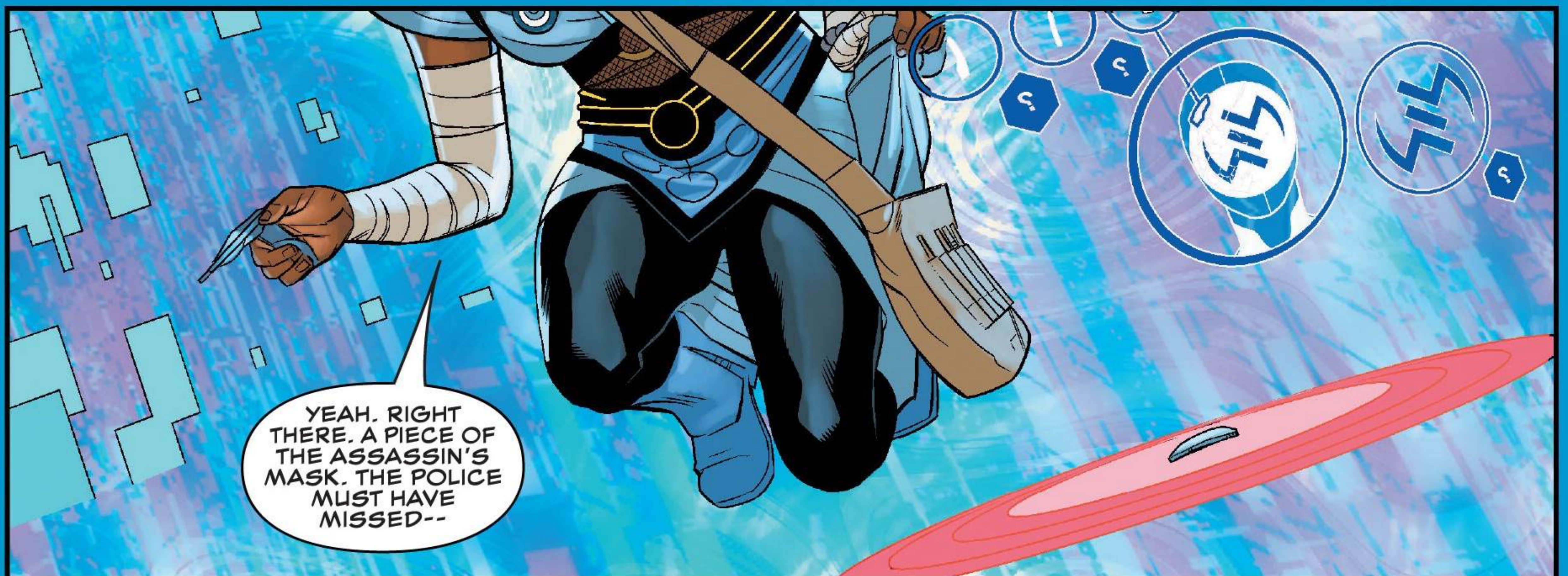
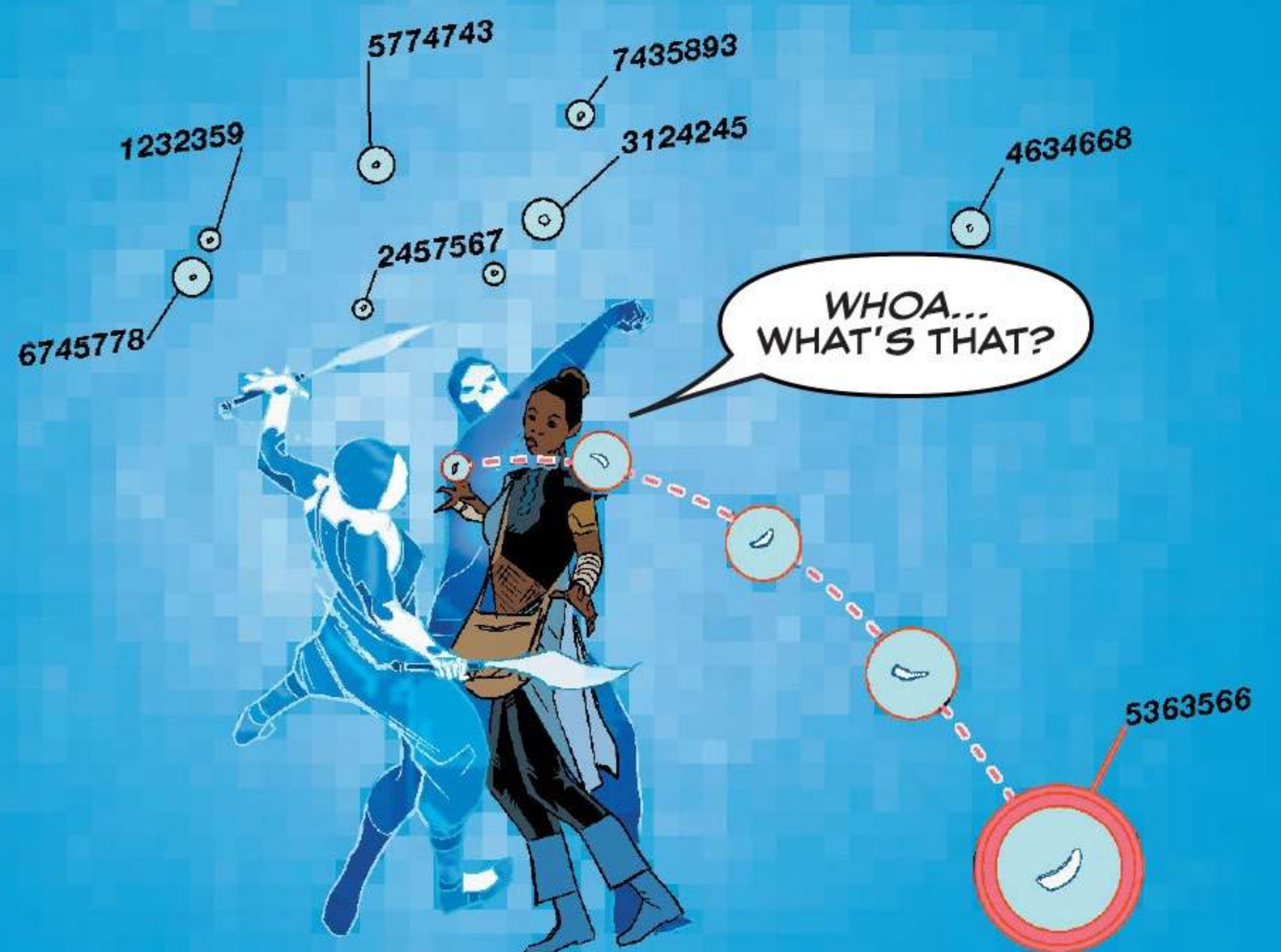
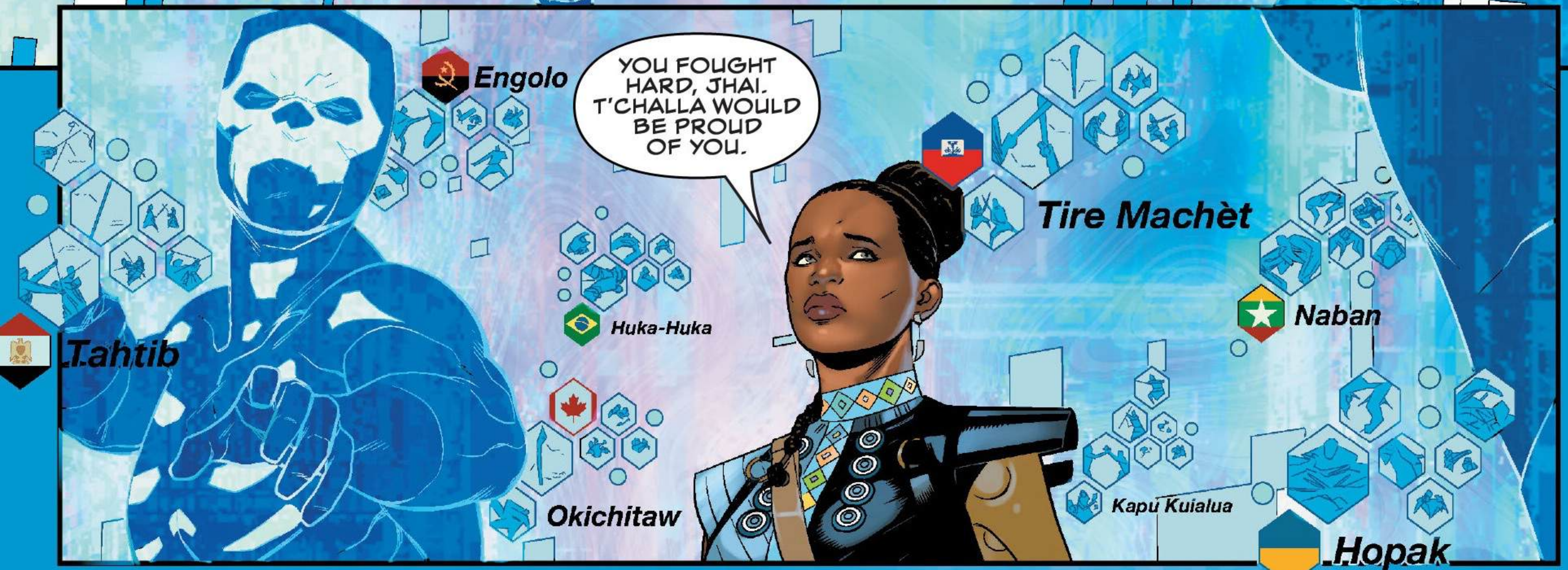


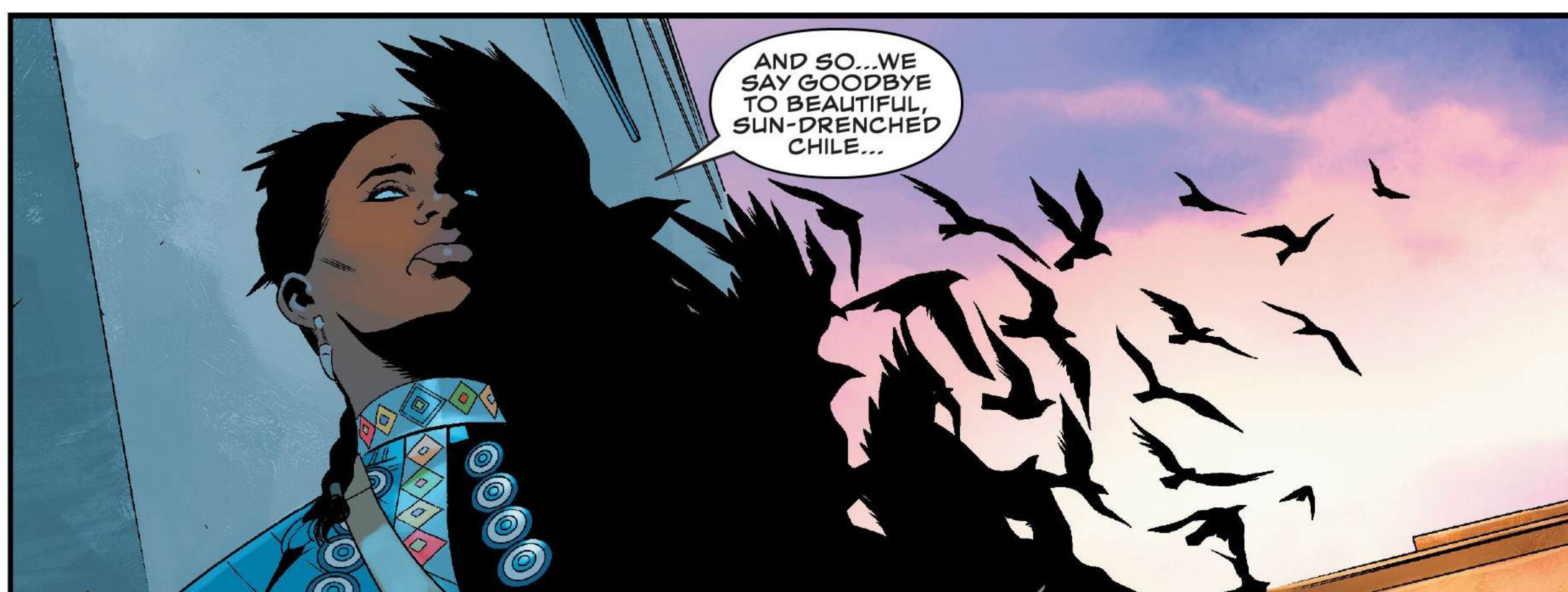
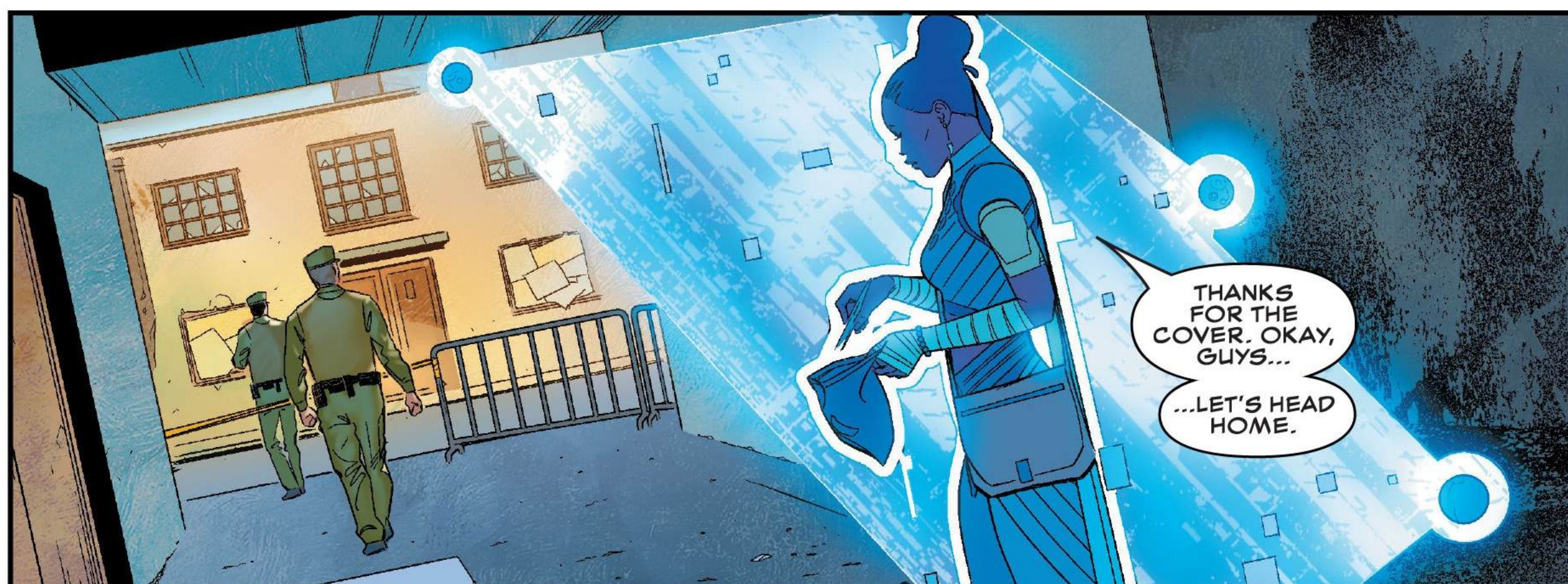
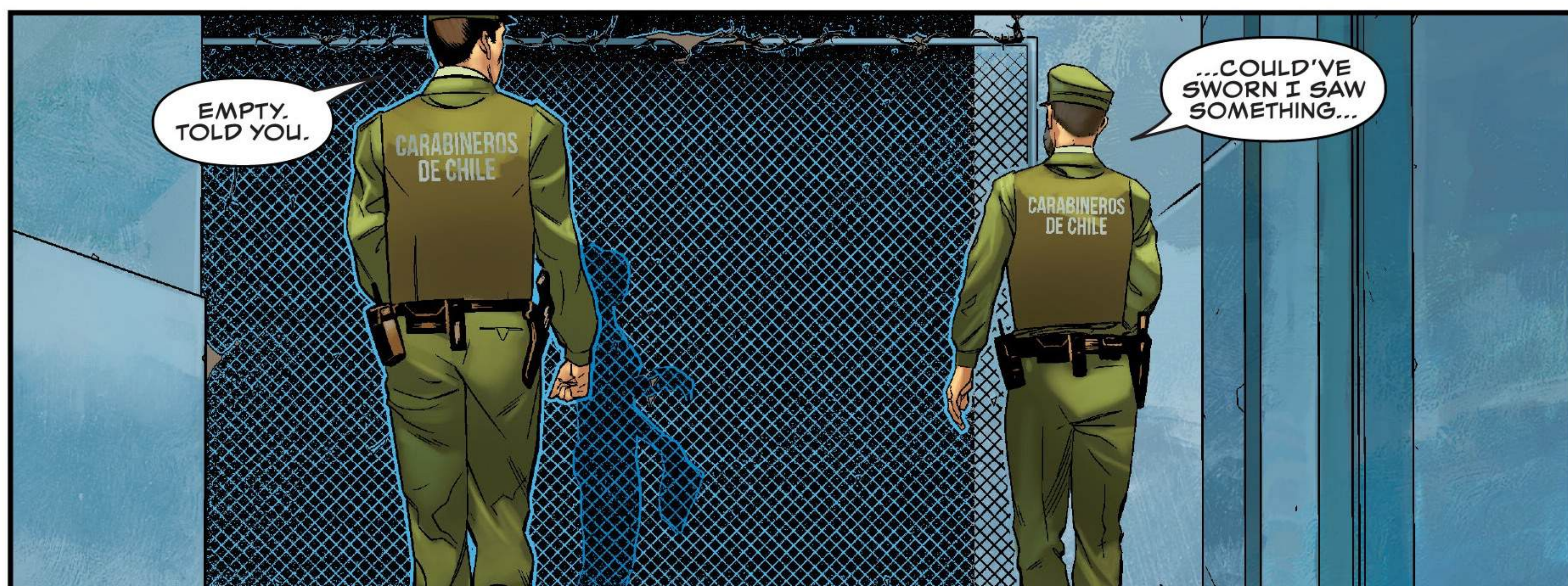
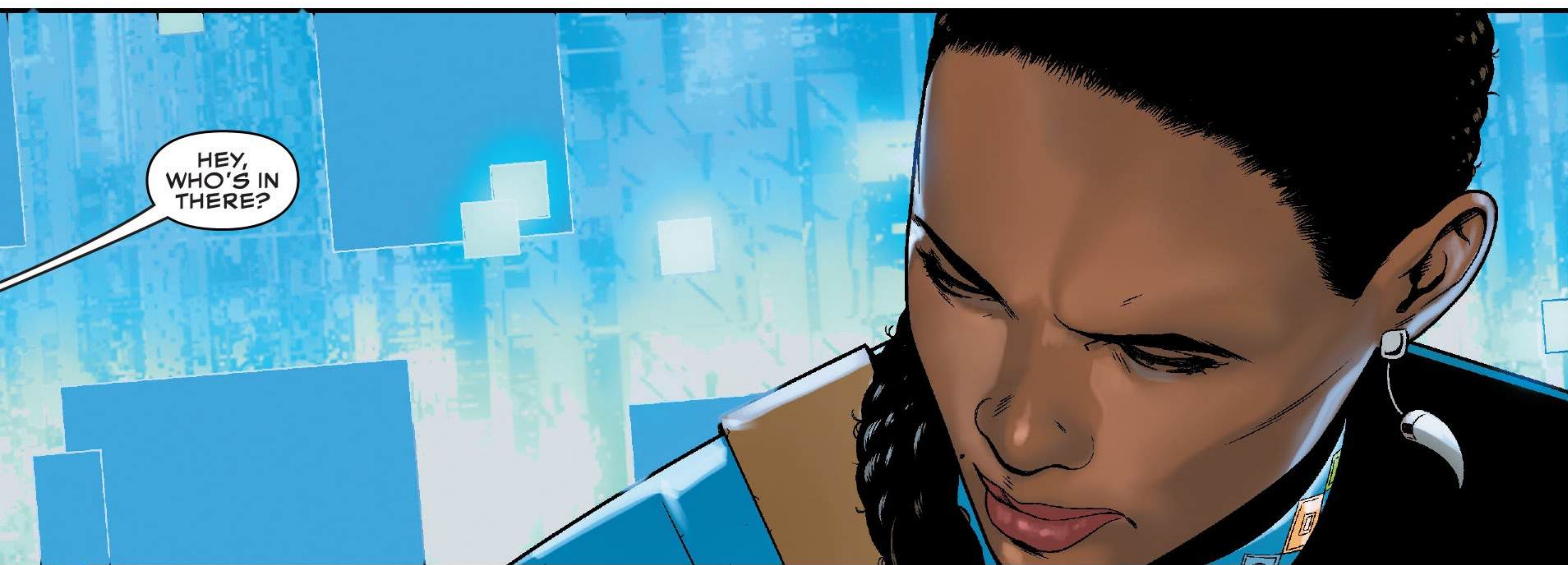
OKAY, BOYS...

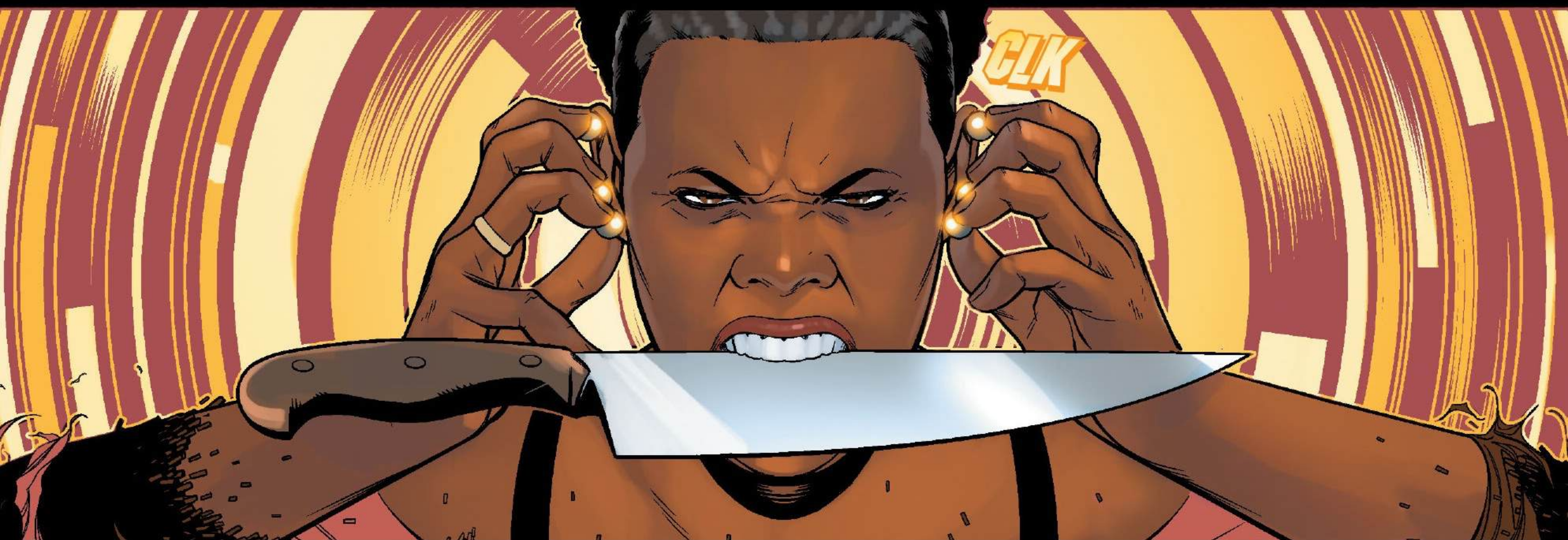
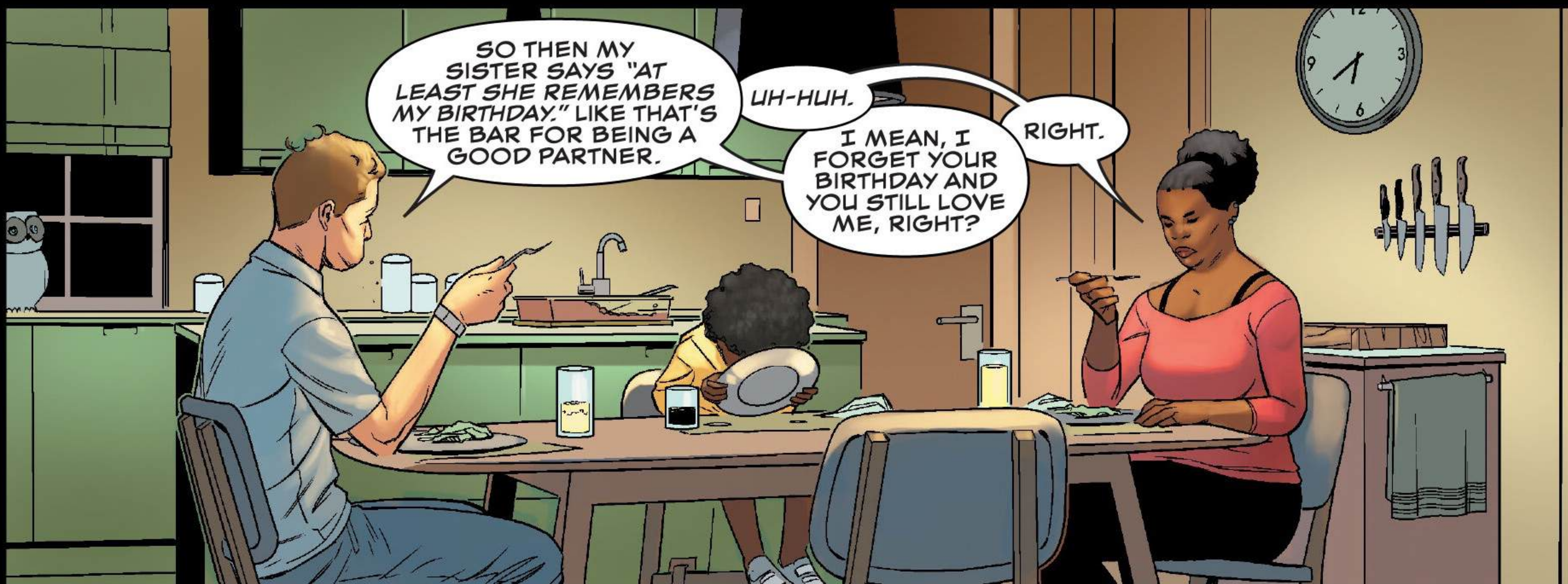


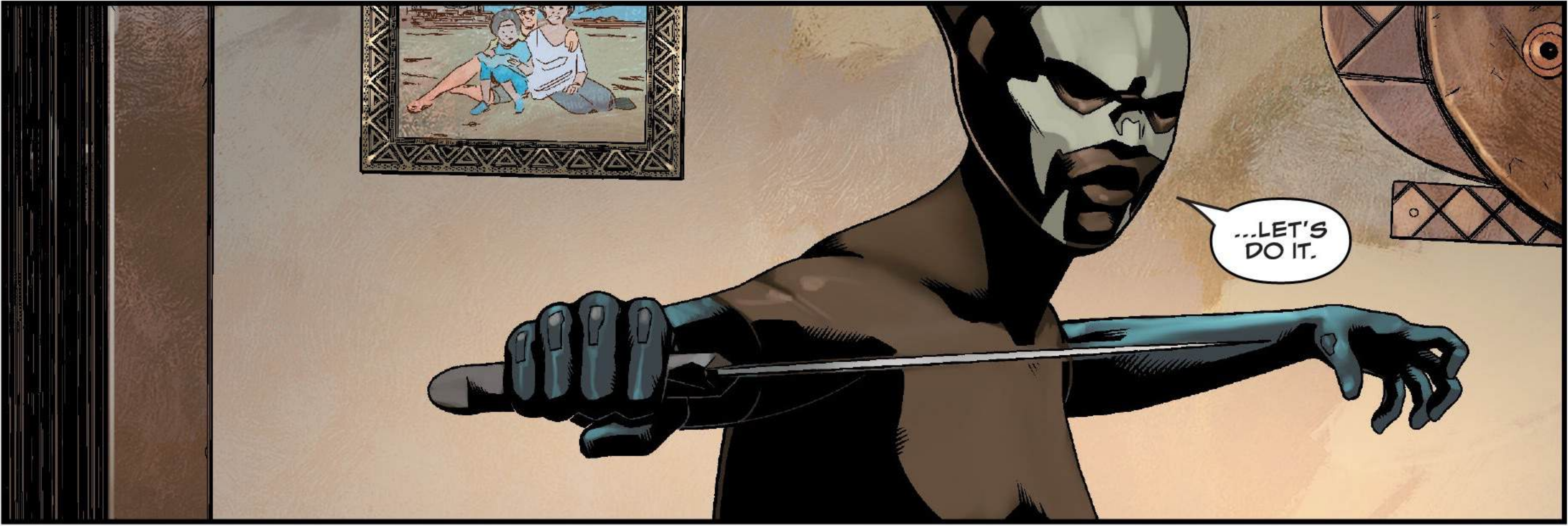
GO DO WORK.

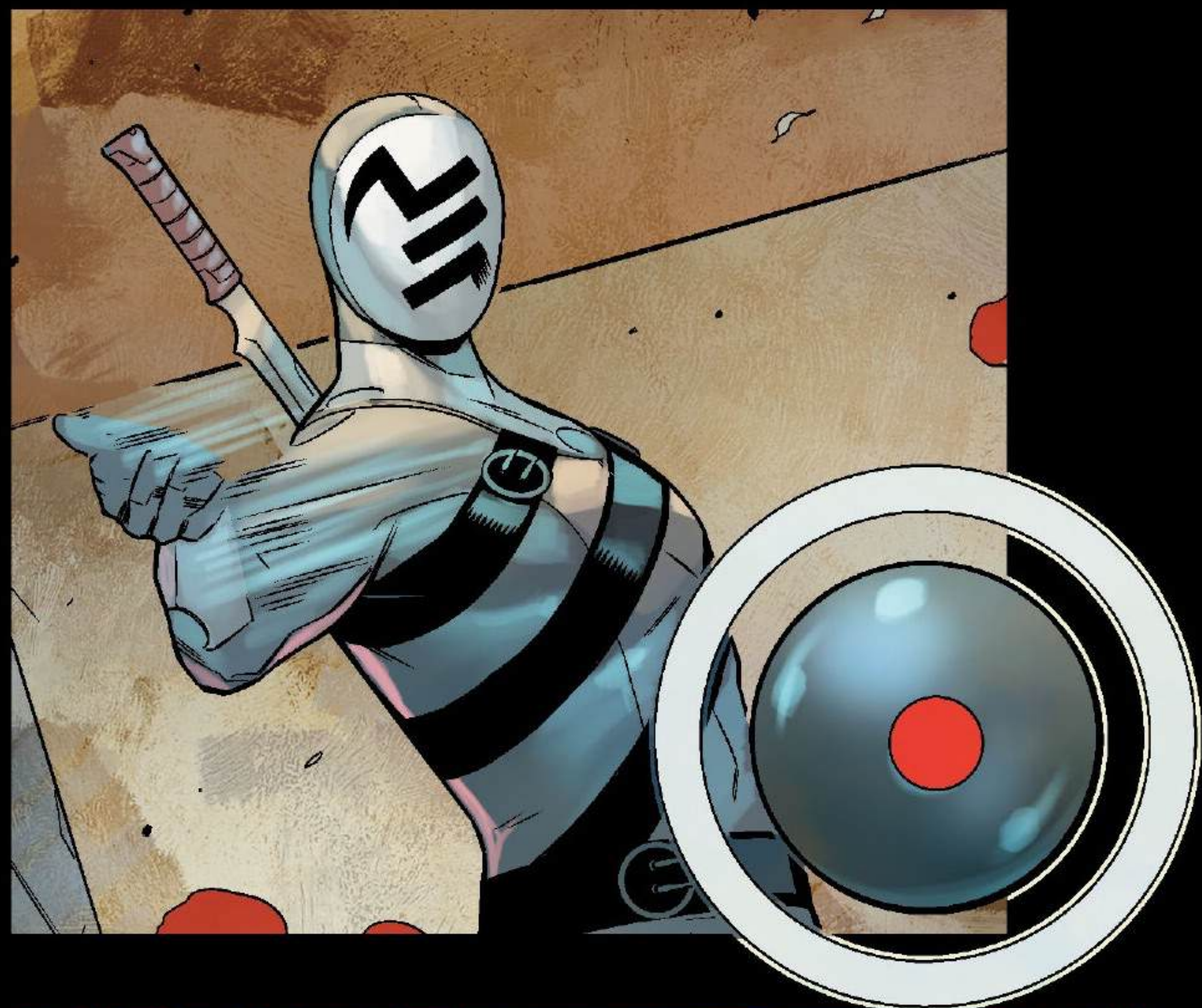
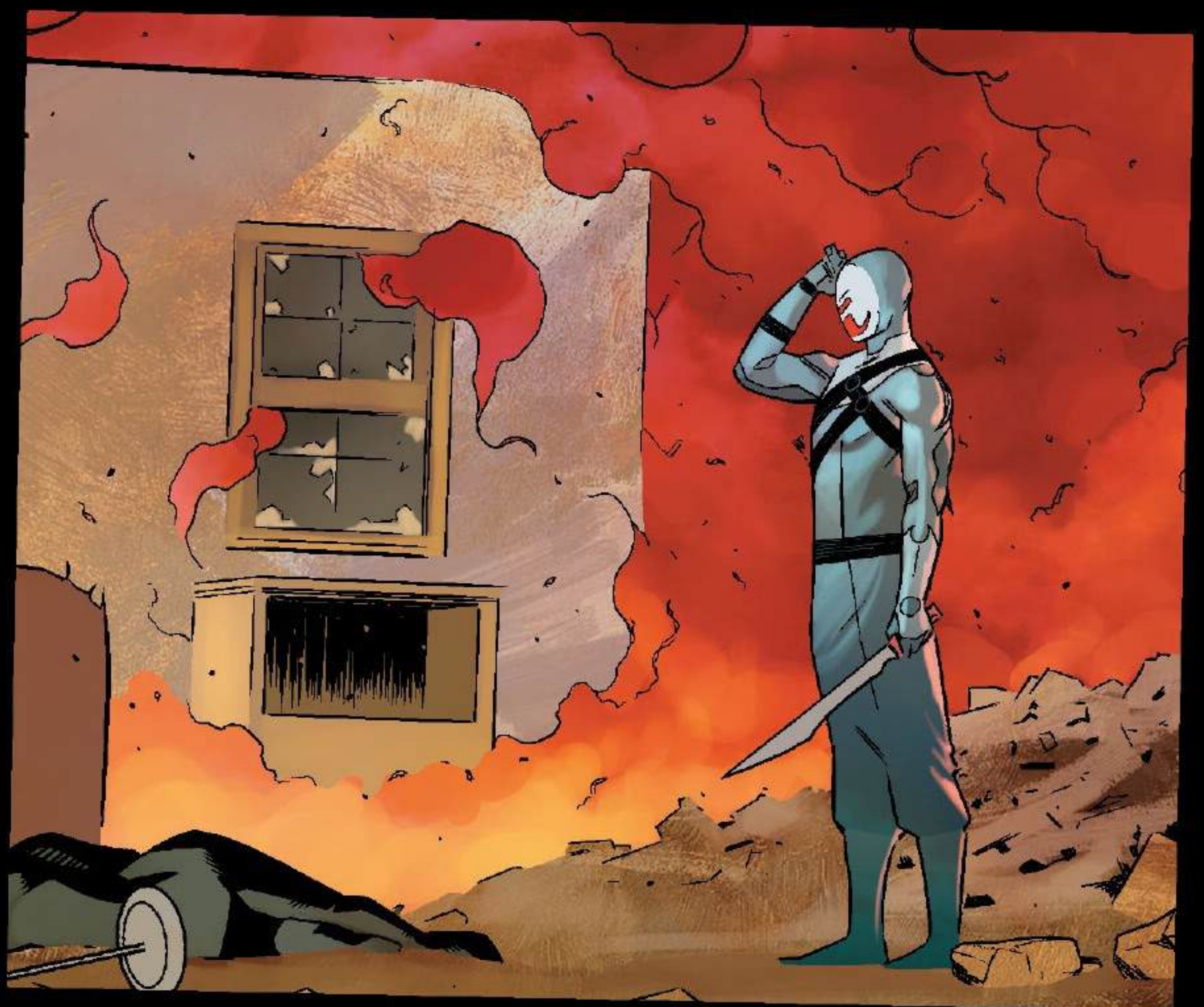
SEE IF YOU CAN TAP INTO ANY CCTV FEEDS. MERGE THEM AND PLAY BACK WHAT YOU FIND.

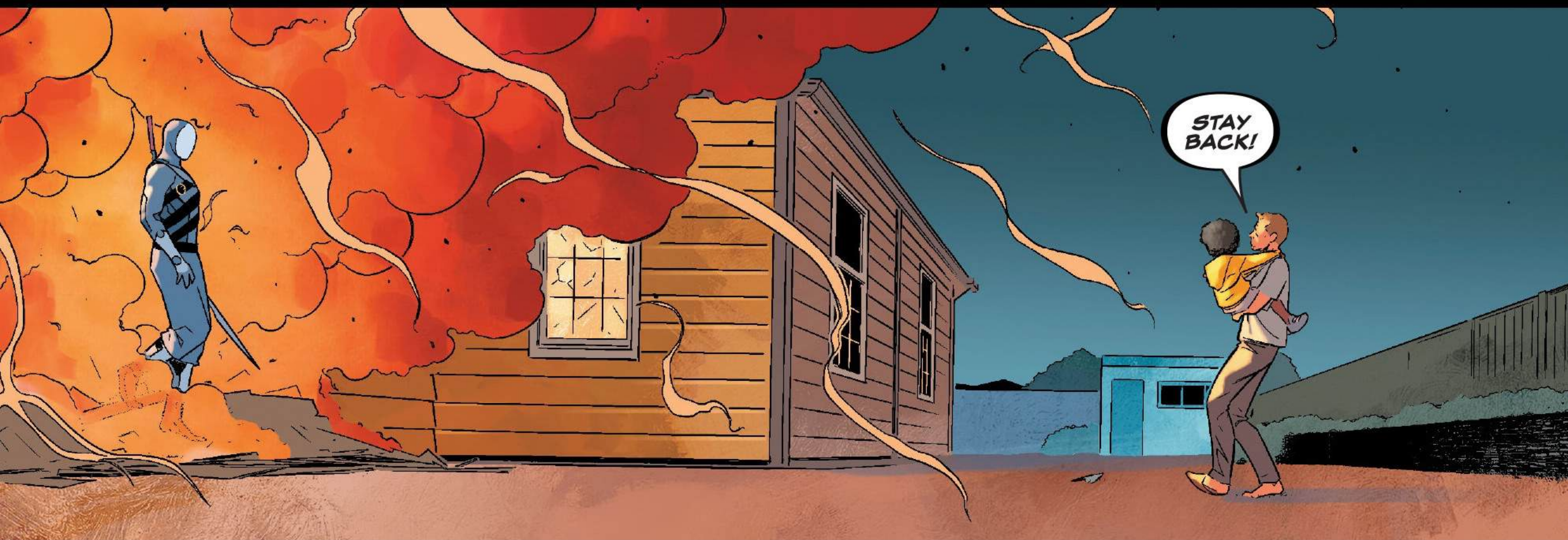














OMOLOLA,
PLEASE ESCORT
KIMURA AND HER
FAMILY TO
SAFETY.

ON IT.

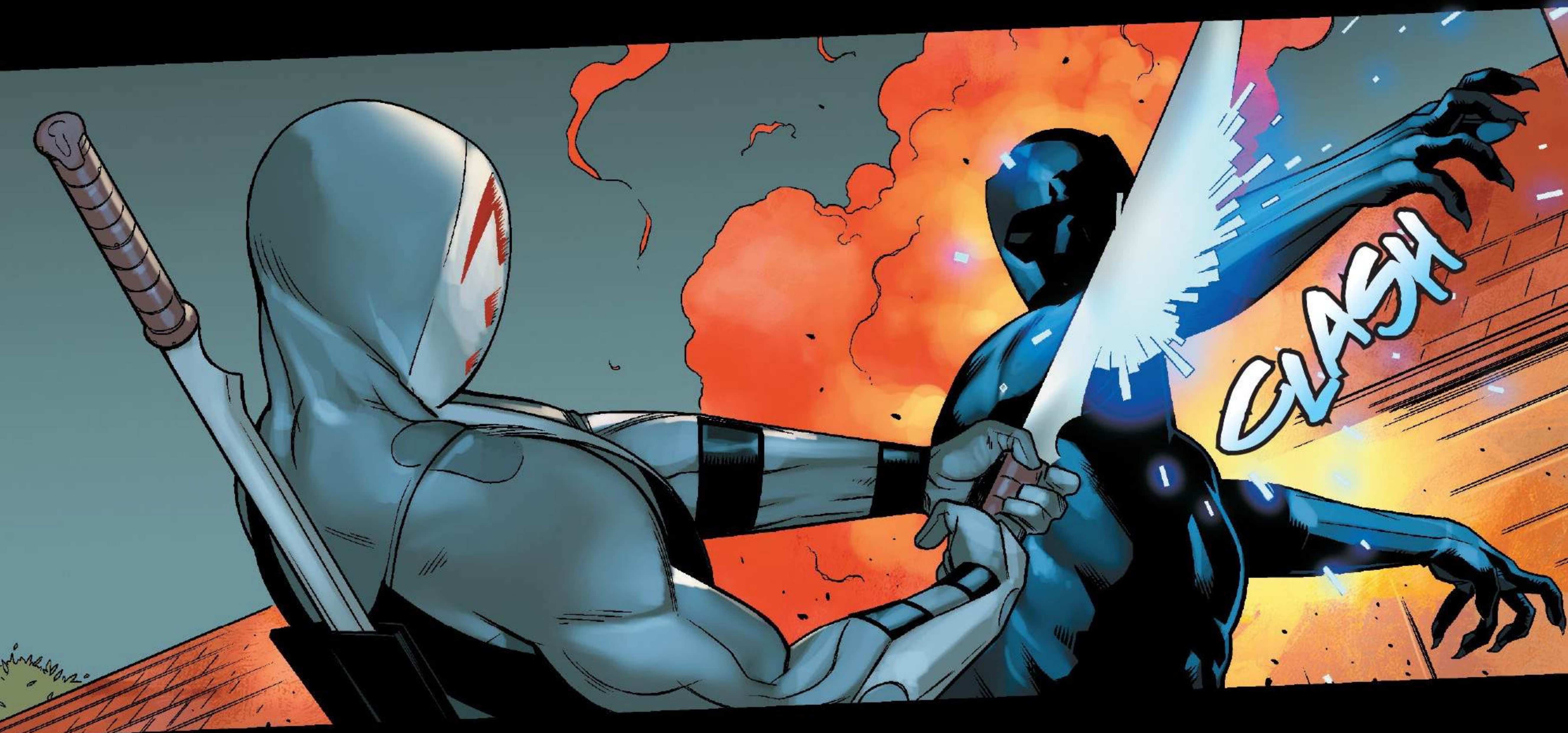


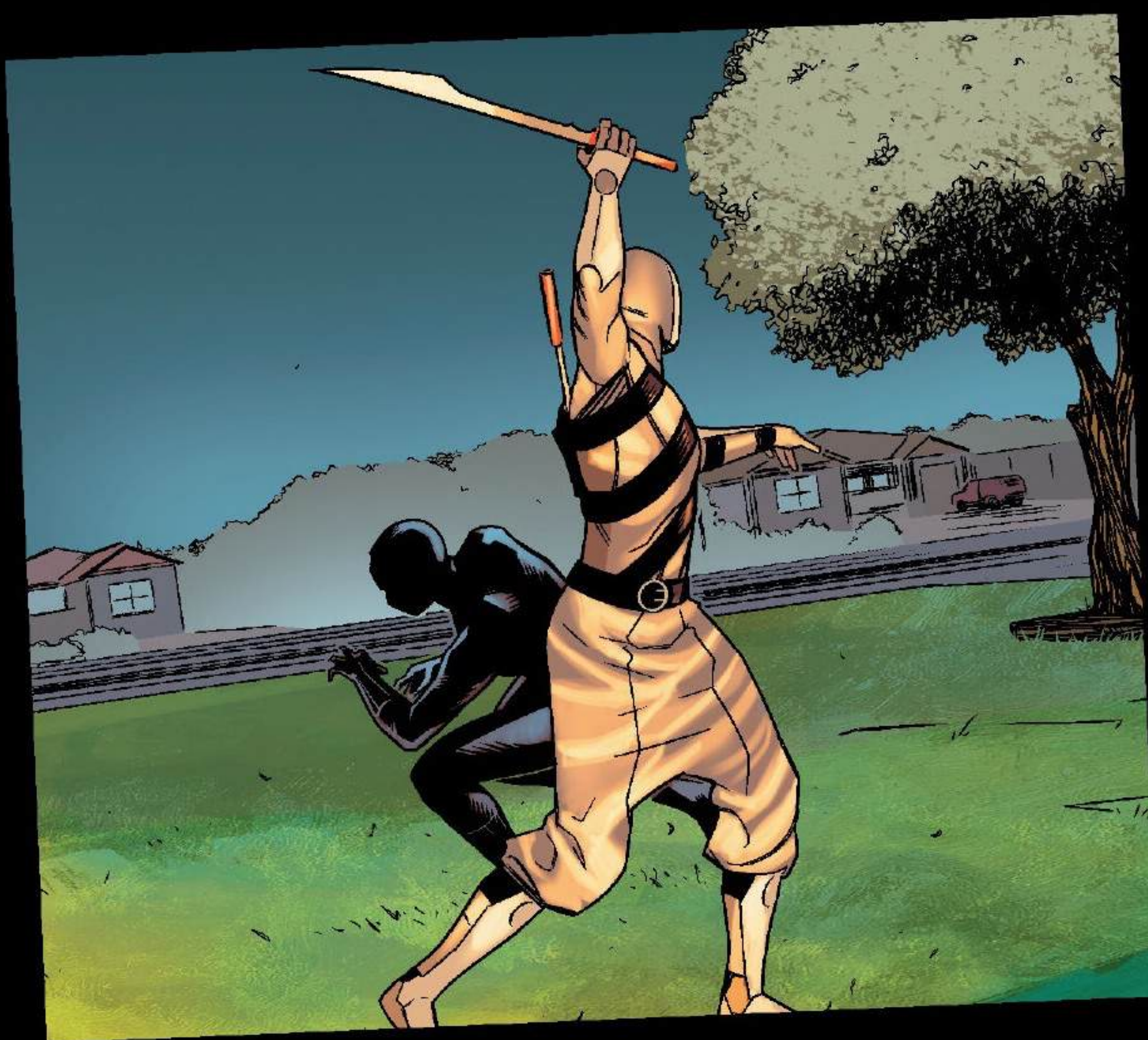
T'CHALLA...
DO ME A FAVOR--
ε@#% THAT
ε@#%\$# UP.

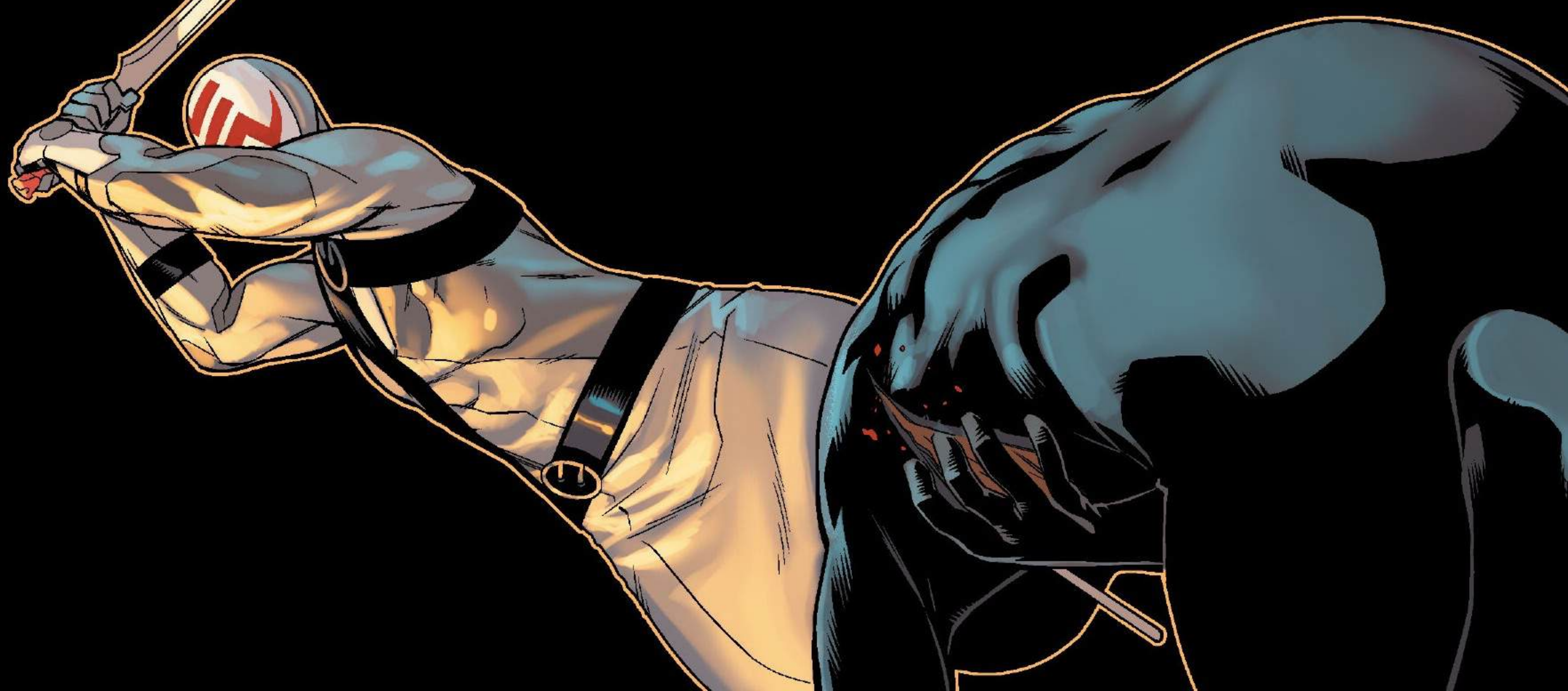
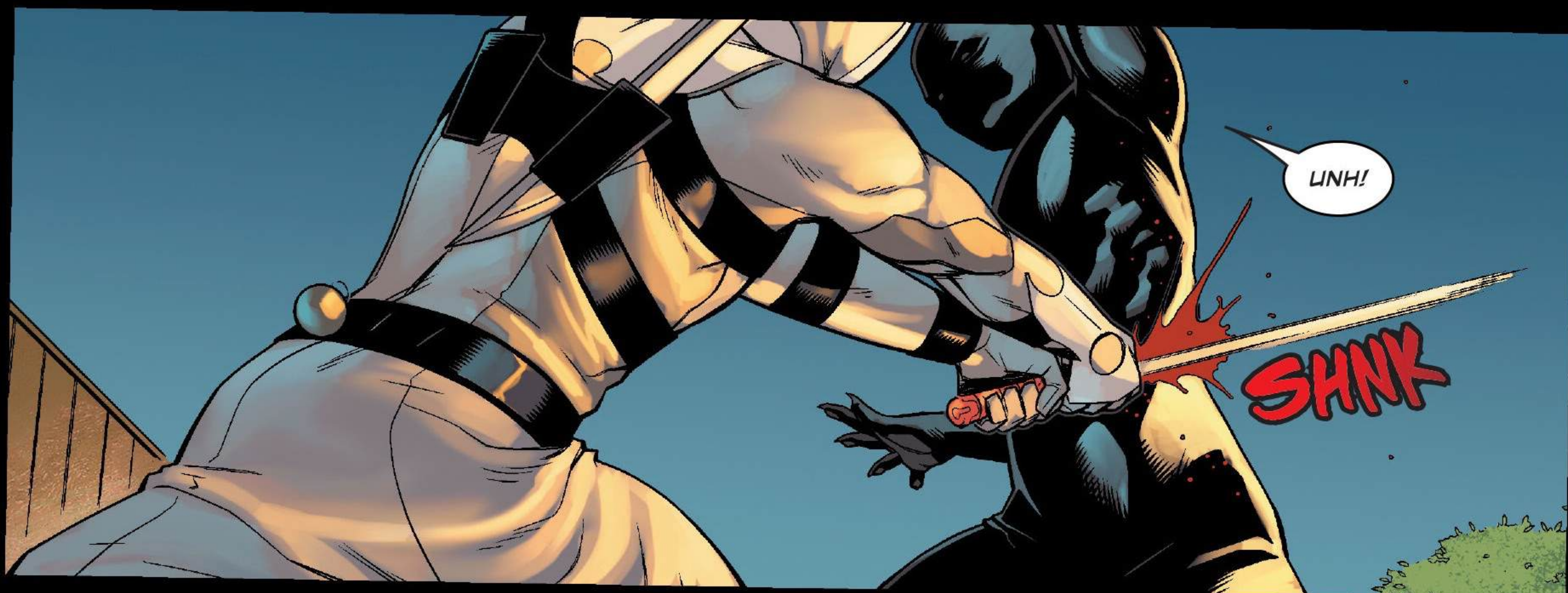
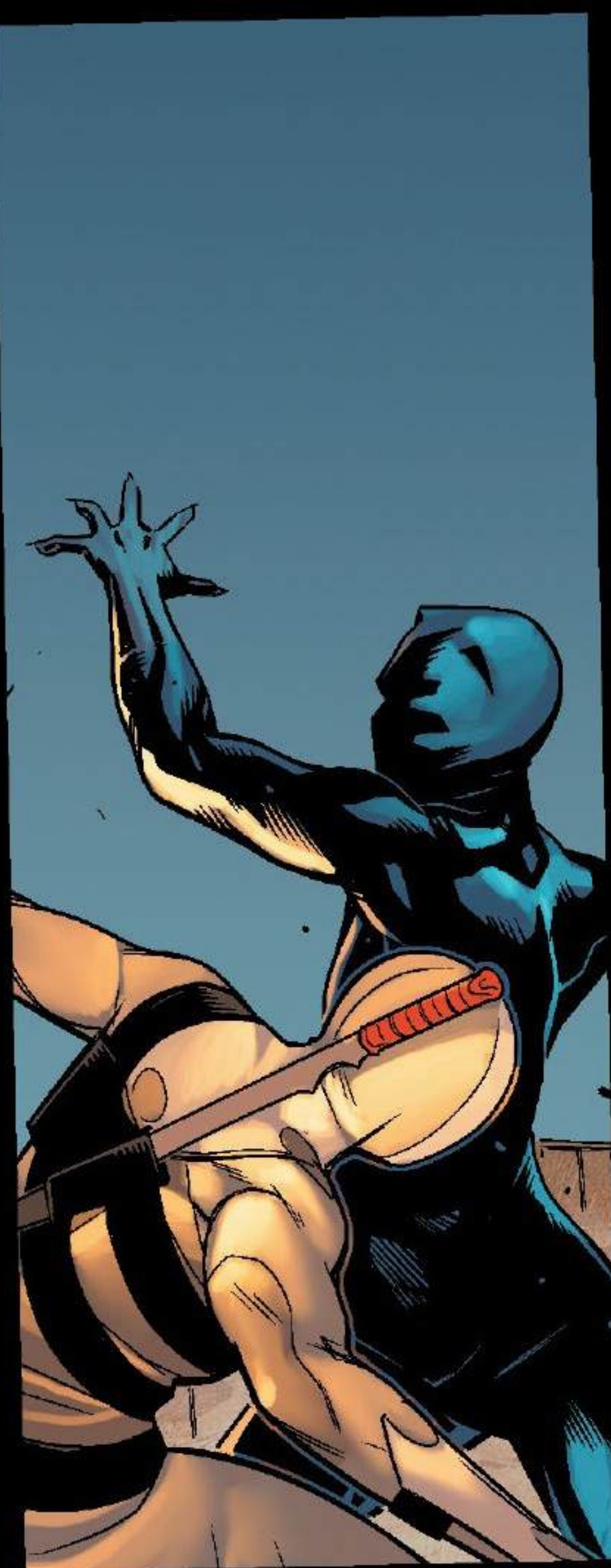


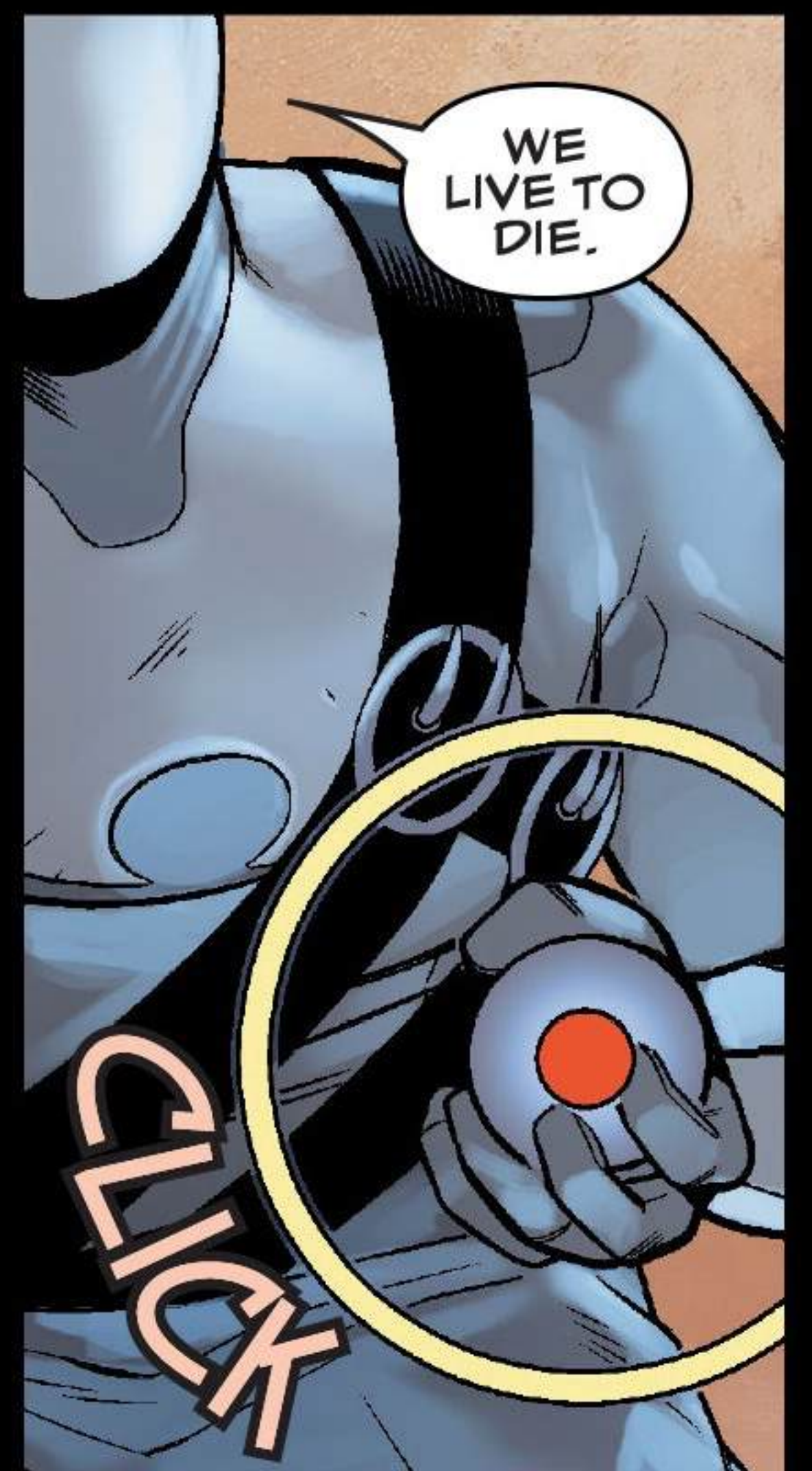
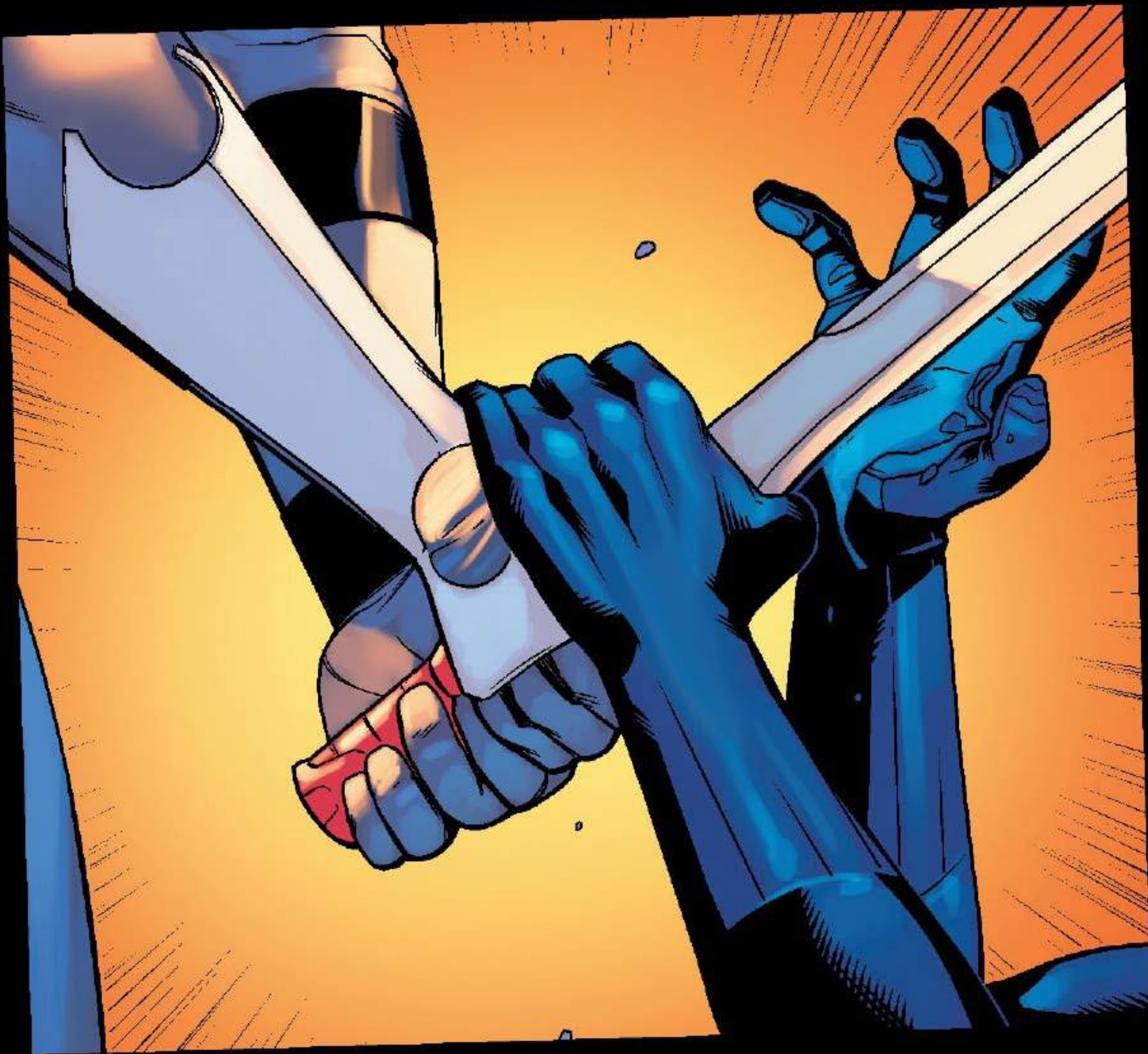
OKAY.

STEEK



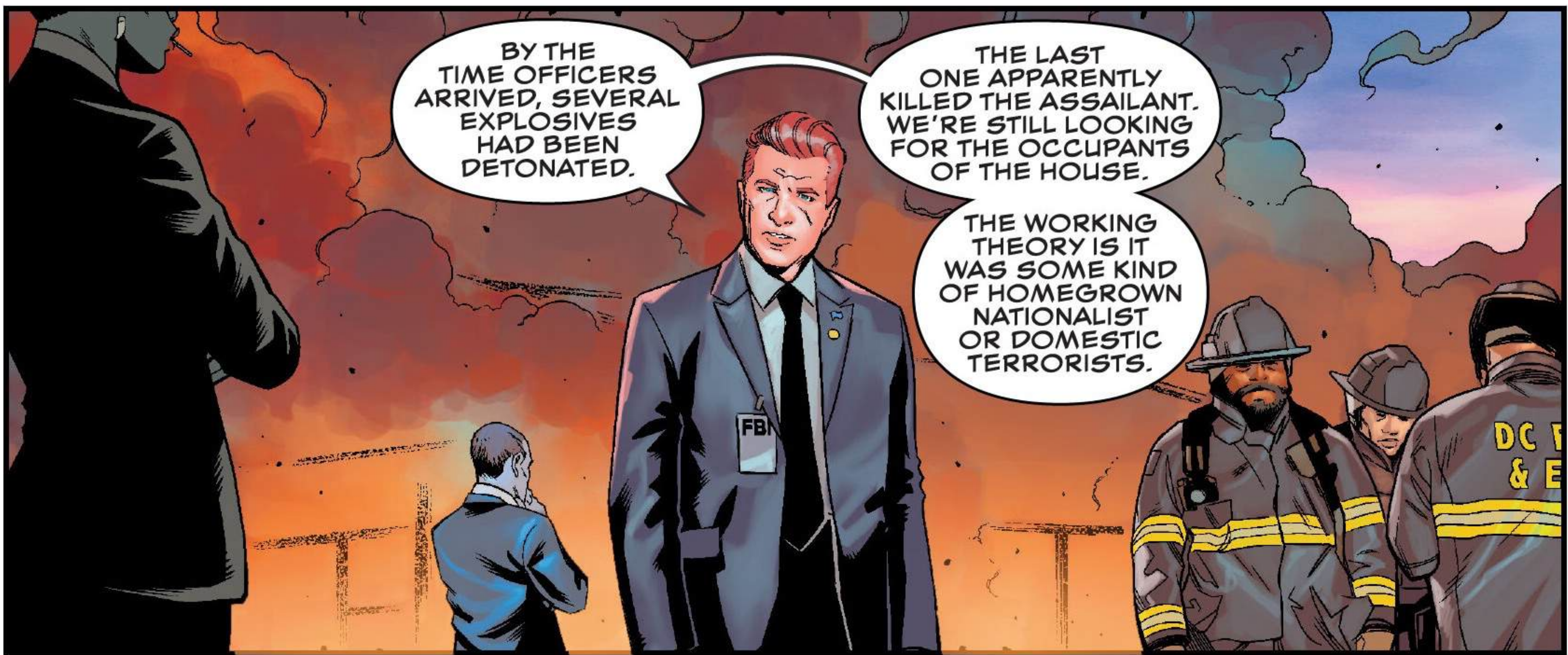








LOCAL PD
RESPONDED TO
A REPORT OF A
DISTURBANCE.



BY THE
TIME OFFICERS
ARRIVED, SEVERAL
EXPLOSIVES
HAD BEEN
DETONATED.

THE LAST
ONE APPARENTLY
KILLED THE ASSAILANT.
WE'RE STILL LOOKING
FOR THE OCCUPANTS
OF THE HOUSE.

THE WORKING
THEORY IS IT
WAS SOME KIND
OF HOMEGROWN
NATIONALIST
OR DOMESTIC
TERRORISTS.

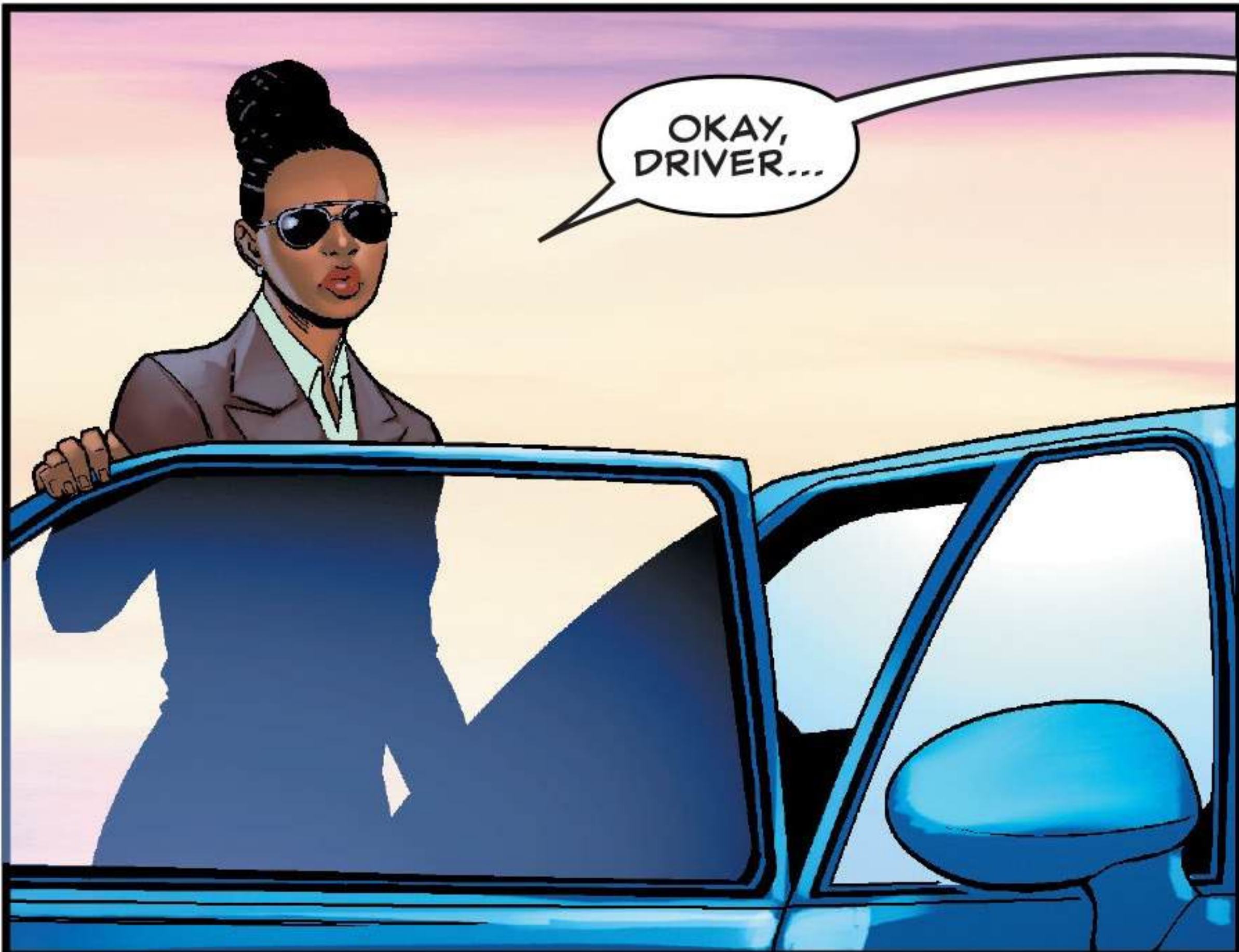


THAT CERTAINLY
SEEMS WORTH
INVESTIGATING.

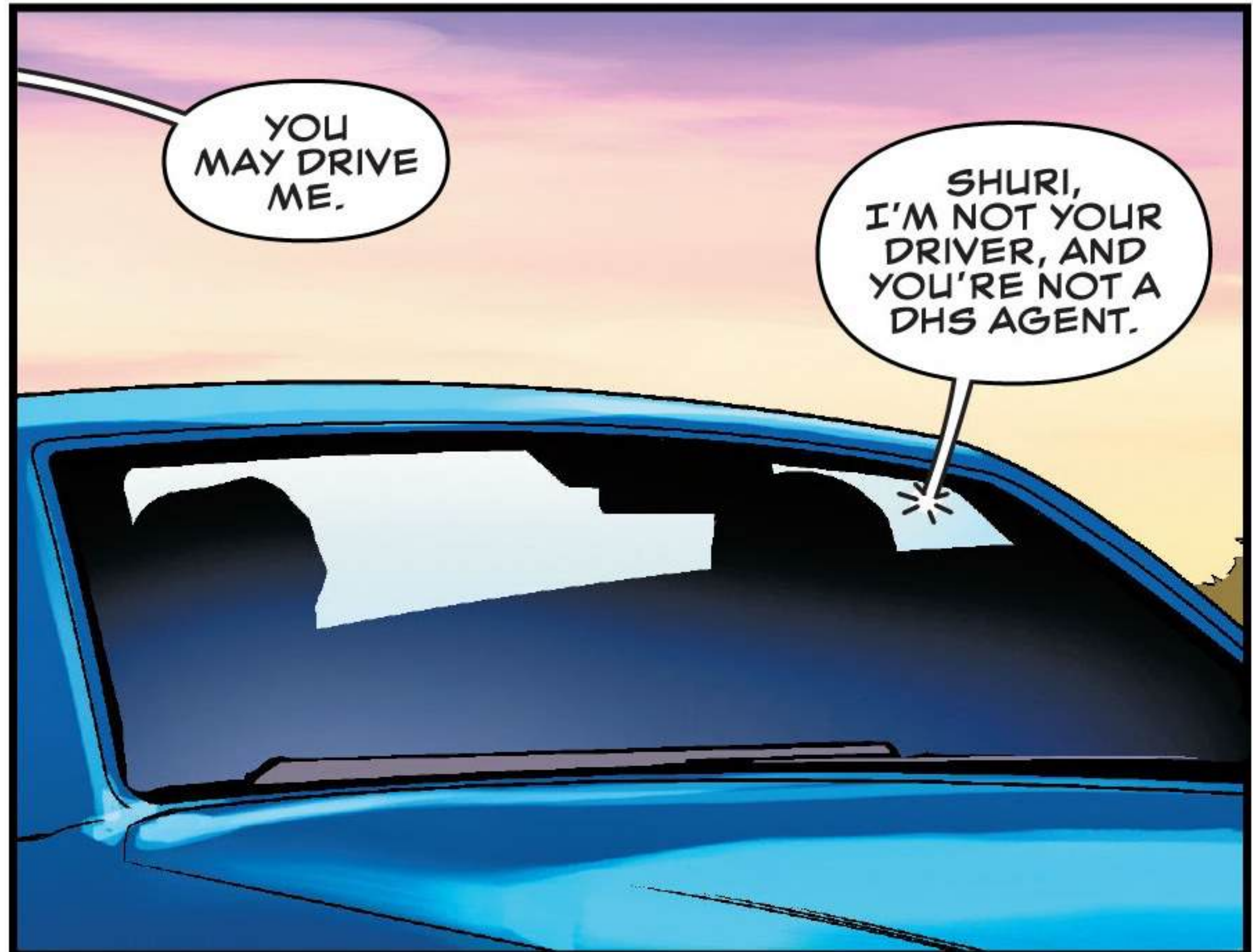


I'LL GET
THE INTEL TO
MY TEAM AT
DHS.

APPRECIATE THE
INTERDEPARTMENTAL
COOPERATION.

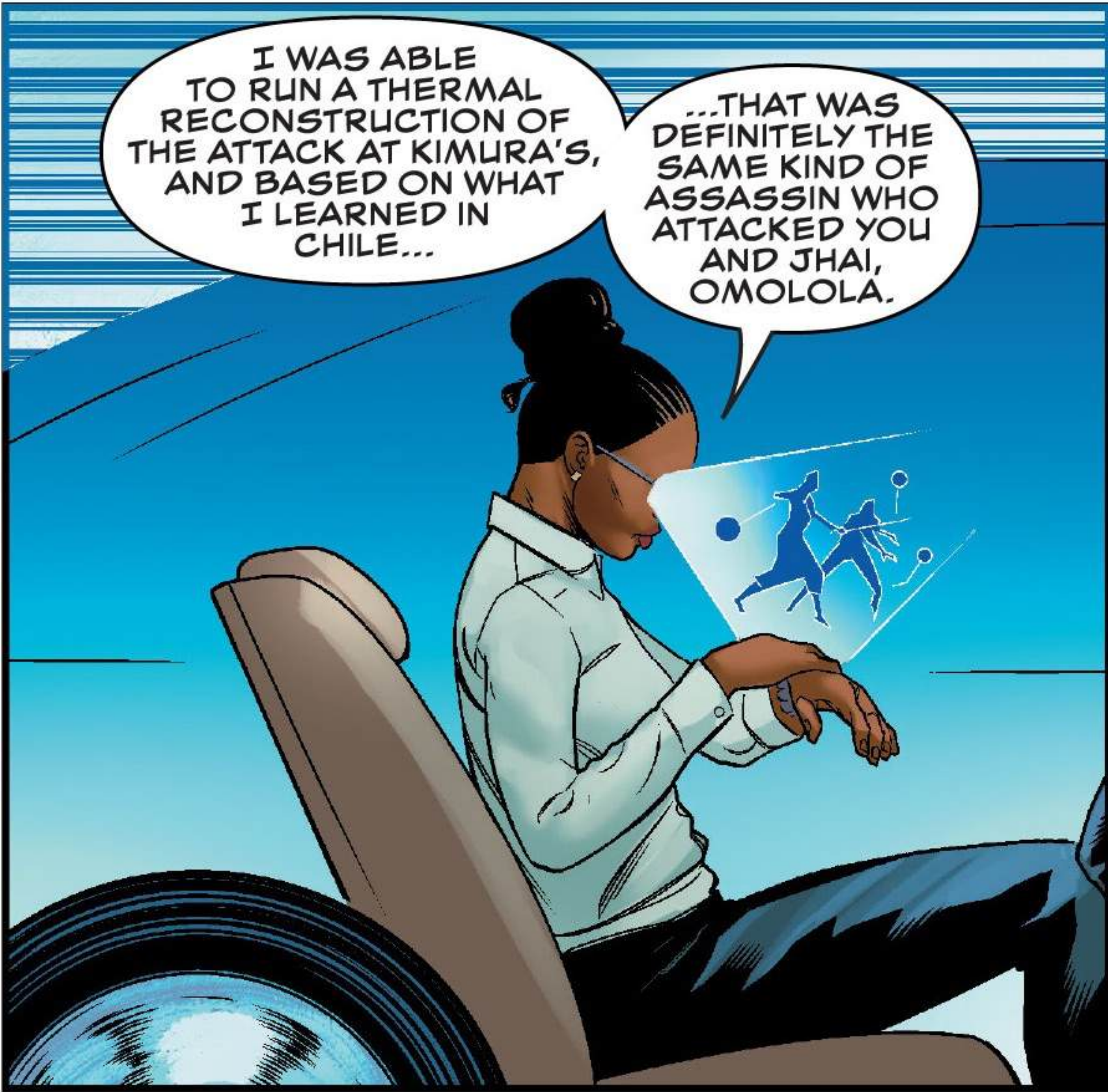


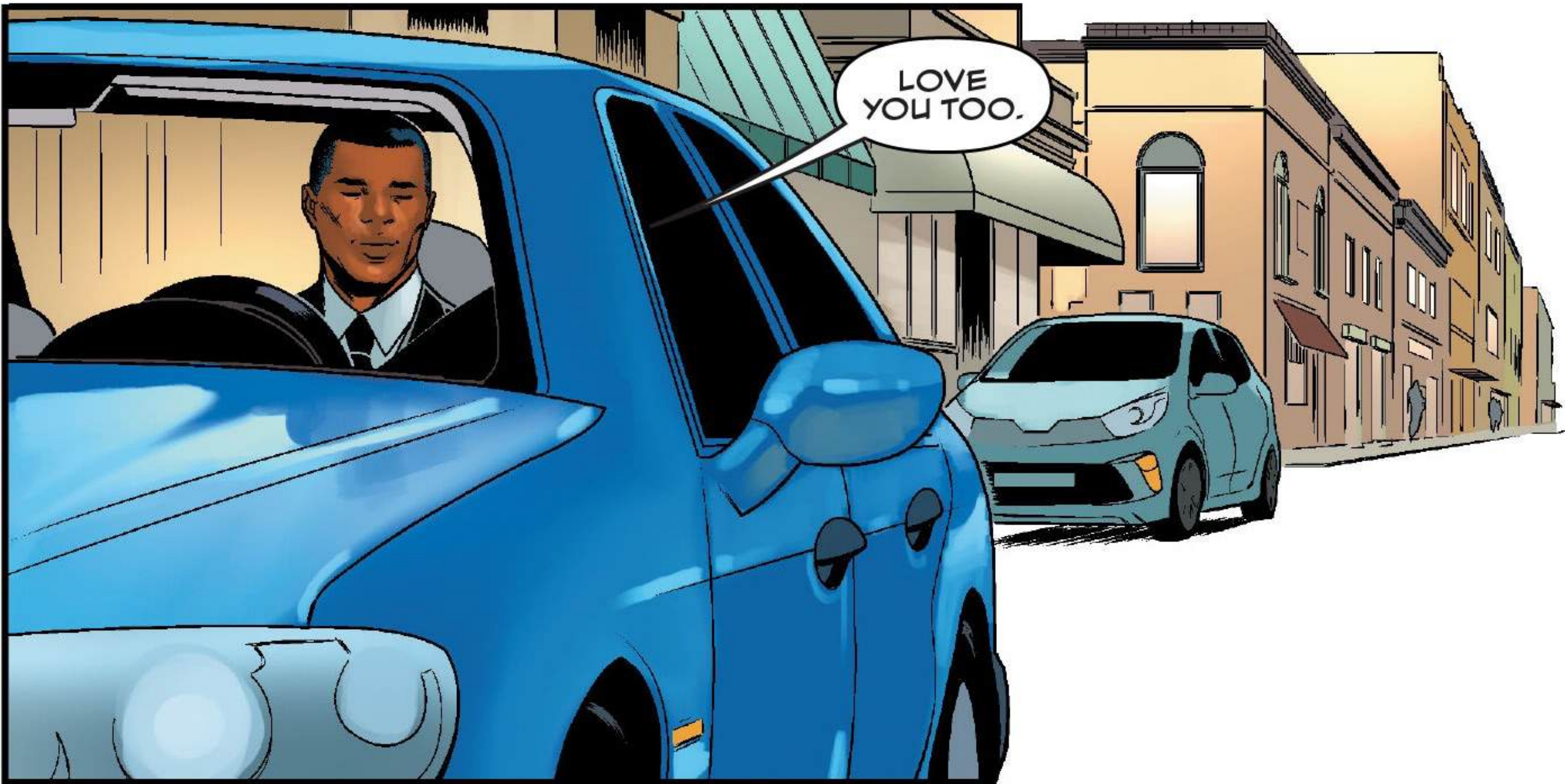
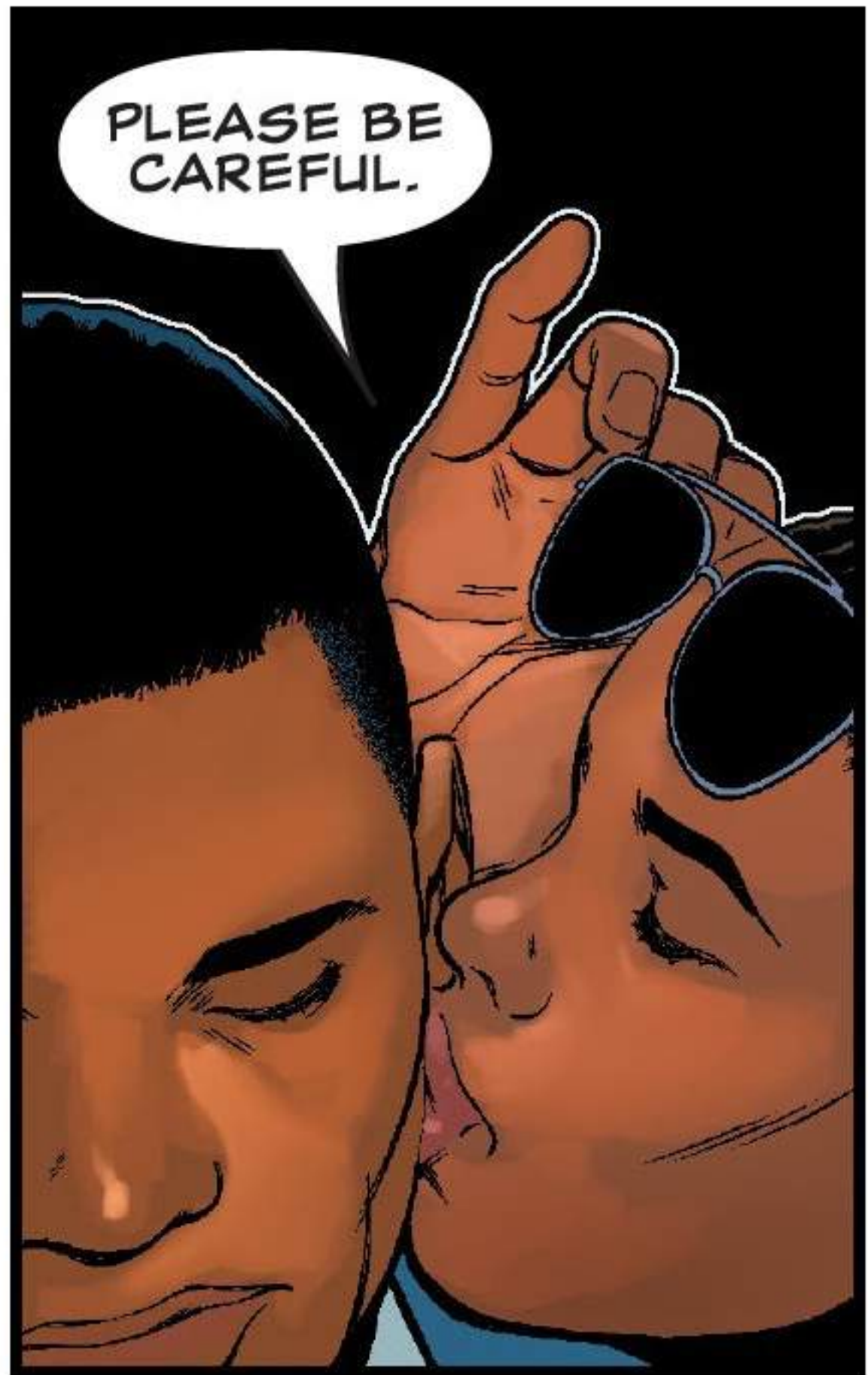
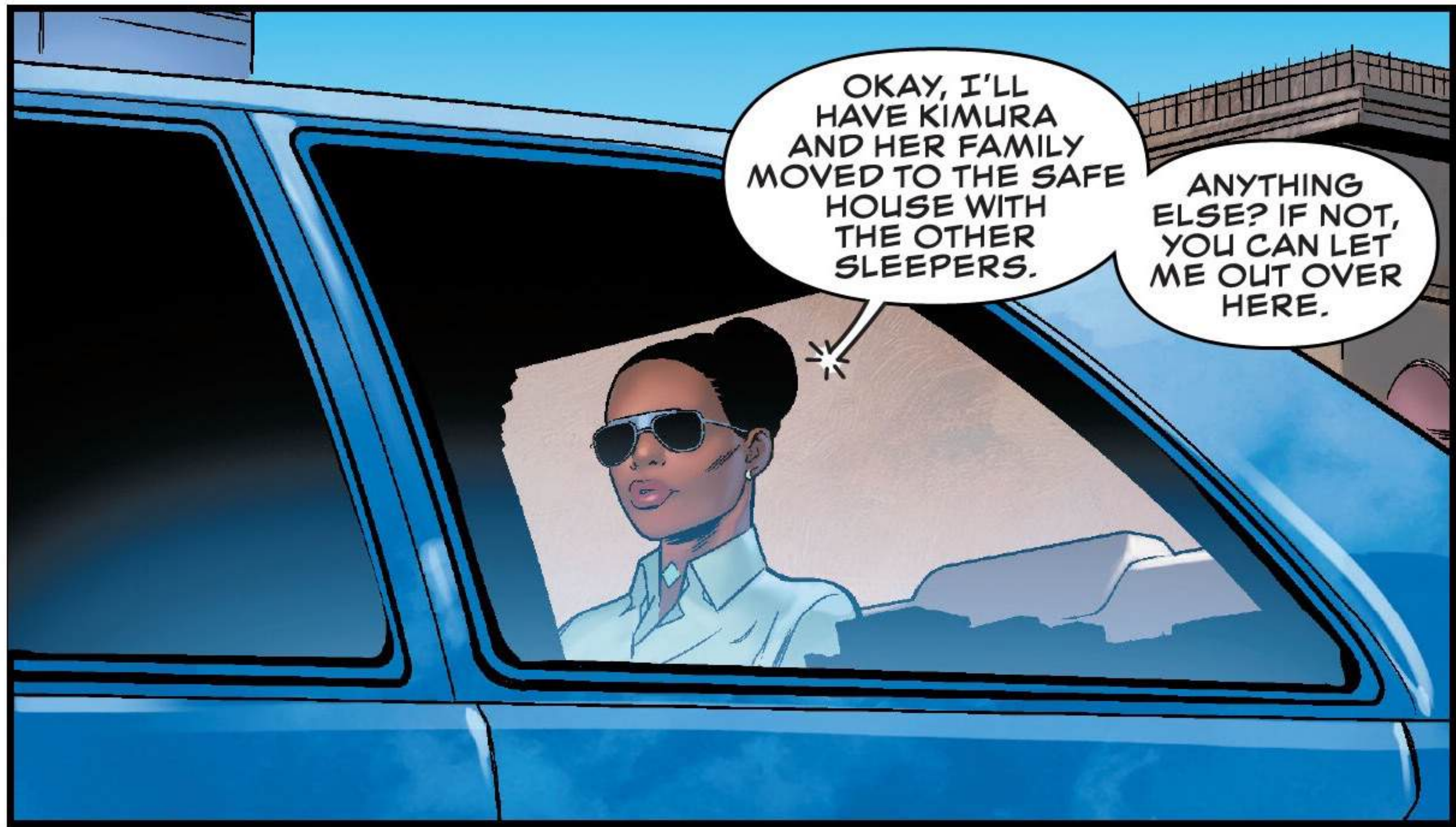
OKAY,
DRIVER...



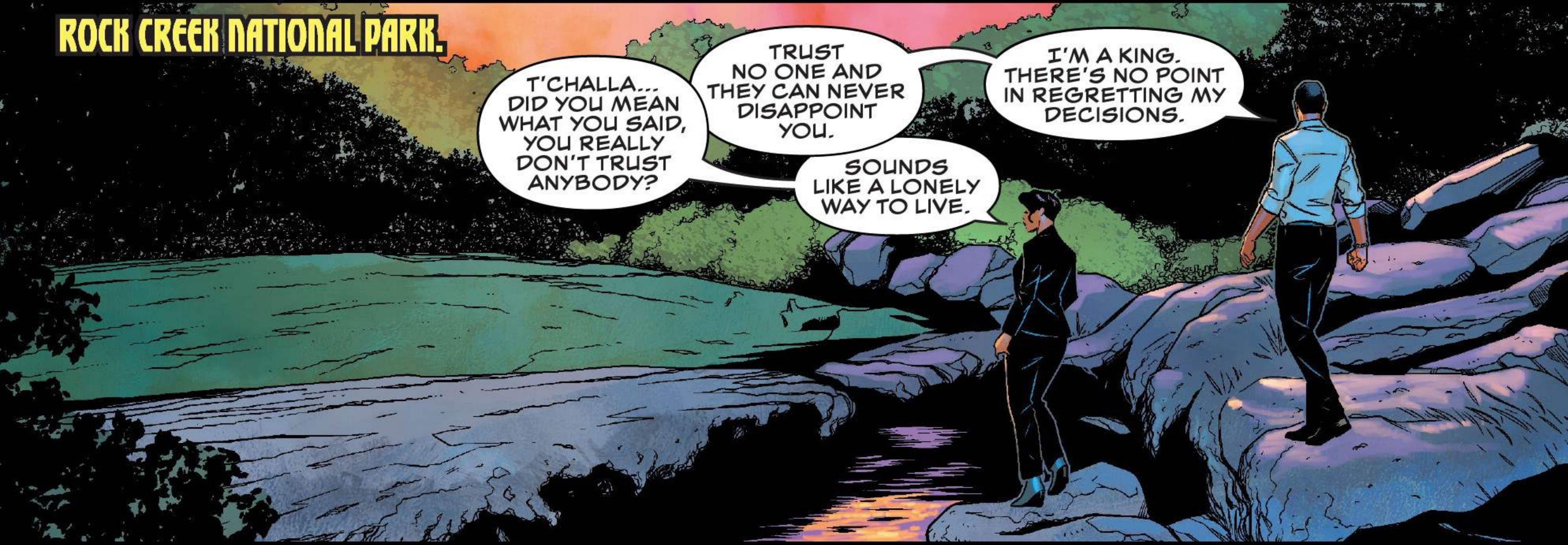
YOU
MAY DRIVE
ME.

SHURI,
I'M NOT YOUR
DRIVER, AND
YOU'RE NOT A
DHS AGENT.





ROCK CREEK NATIONAL PARK.



T'CHALLA... DID YOU MEAN WHAT YOU SAID, YOU REALLY DON'T TRUST ANYBODY?

TRUST NO ONE AND THEY CAN NEVER DISAPPOINT YOU.

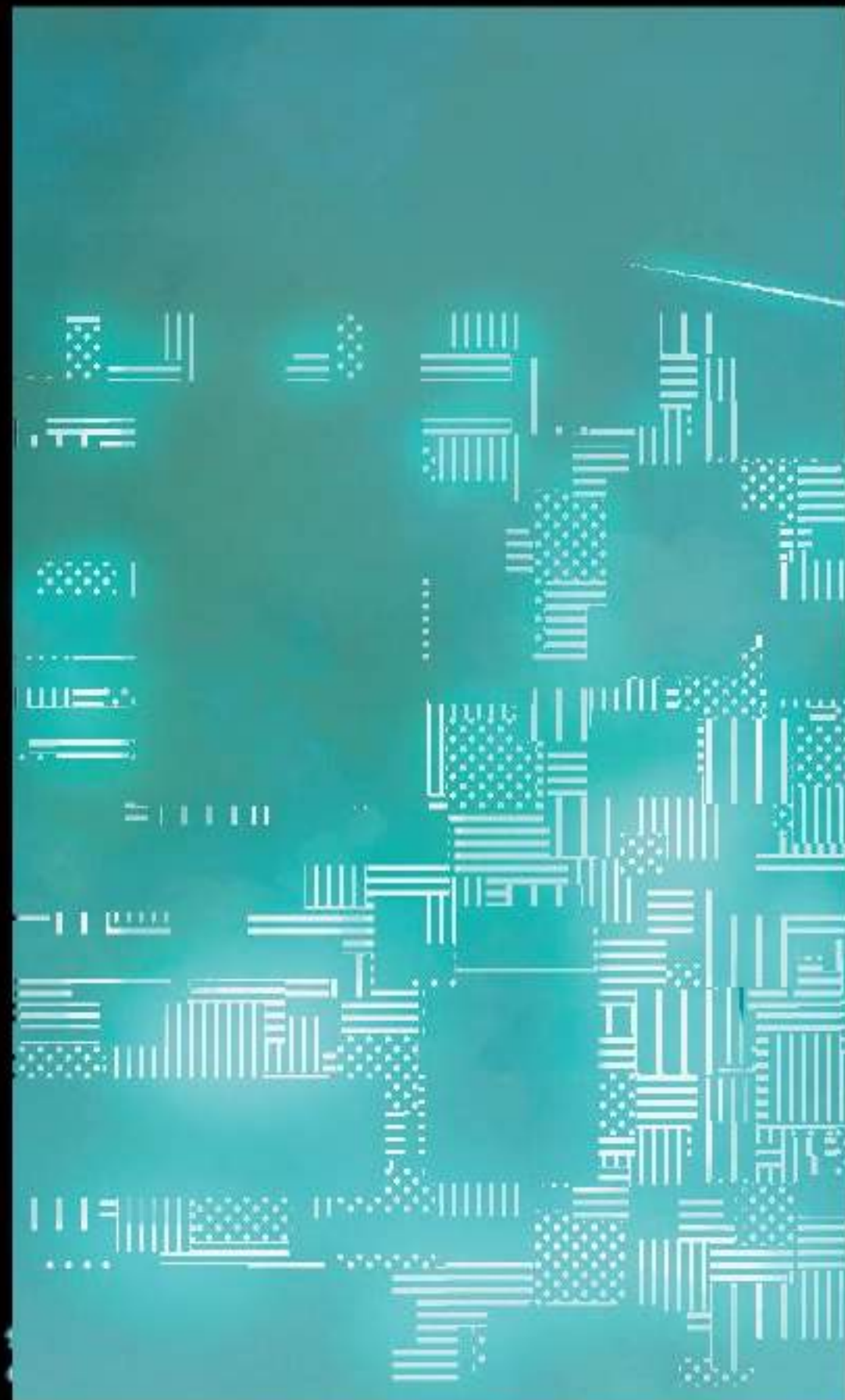
SOUNDS LIKE A LONELY WAY TO LIVE.

I'M A KING. THERE'S NO POINT IN REGRETTING MY DECISIONS.



ALL I CAN DO IS ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES...

CLICK



...AND MOVE ON.



SLICK. DONE FLYING COMMERCIAL?

I HAD HOPED TO TRAVEL CLANDESTINELY.

BUT AFTER THIS LAST ATTACK...

THE ASSASSINS ARE EITHER ONE STEP AHEAD, OR THEY'RE USING ME TO TRACK THE SLEEPERS.



EITHER WAY, THAT MEANS THEY KNOW HOW YOU THINK.

THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

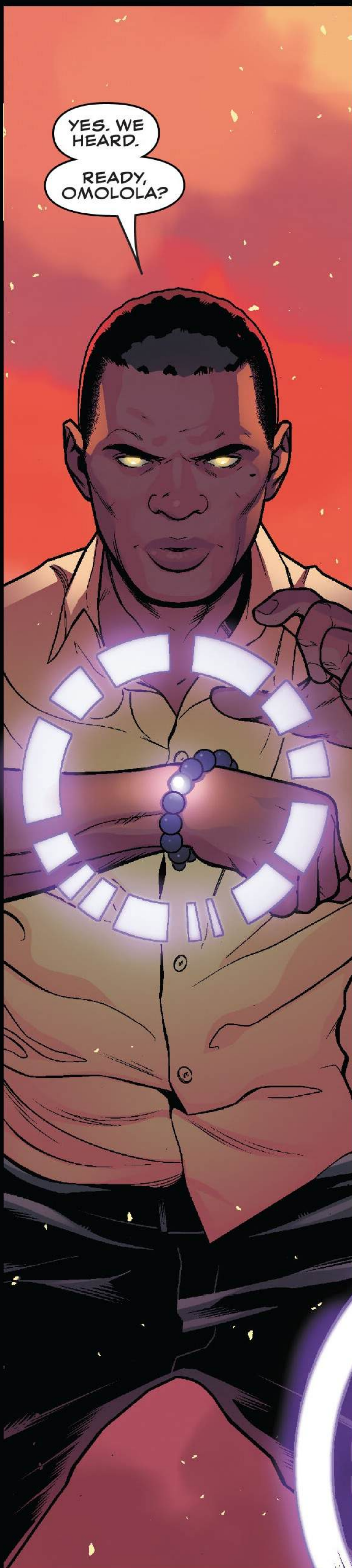
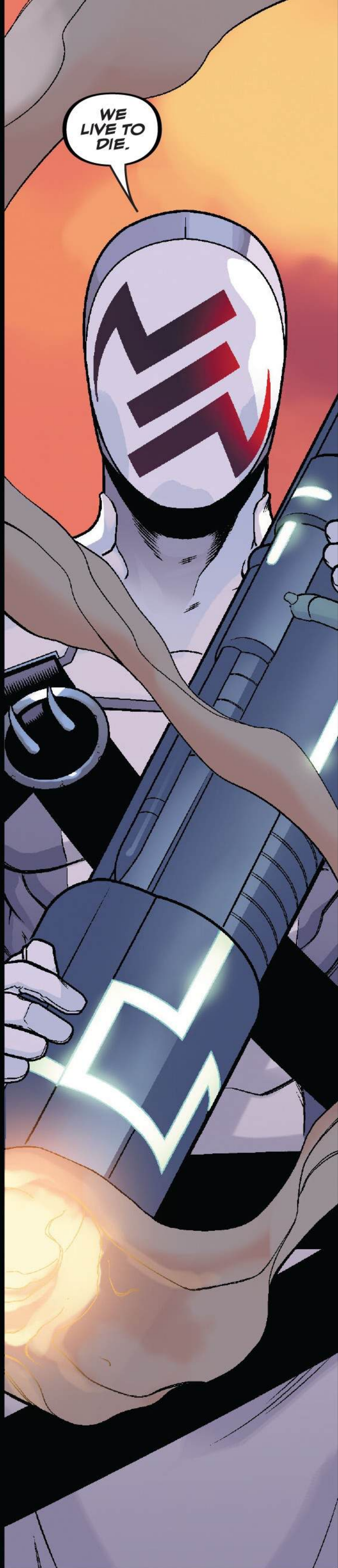
I MEANT WHAT I TOLD YOU: I DON'T TRUST ANYO--



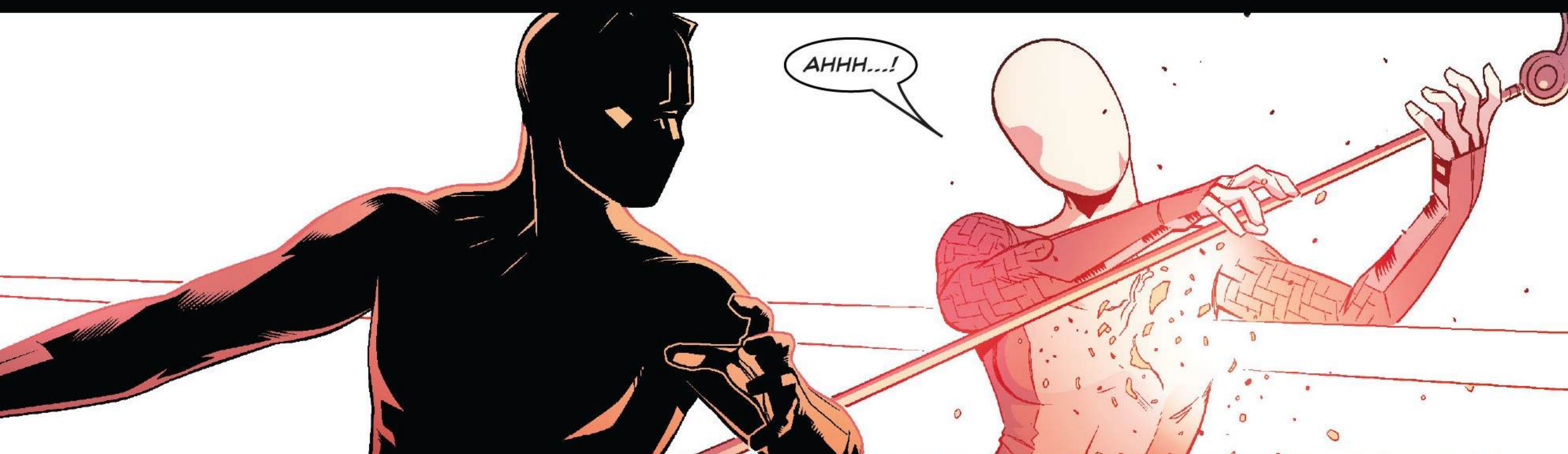
OMOLOLA...

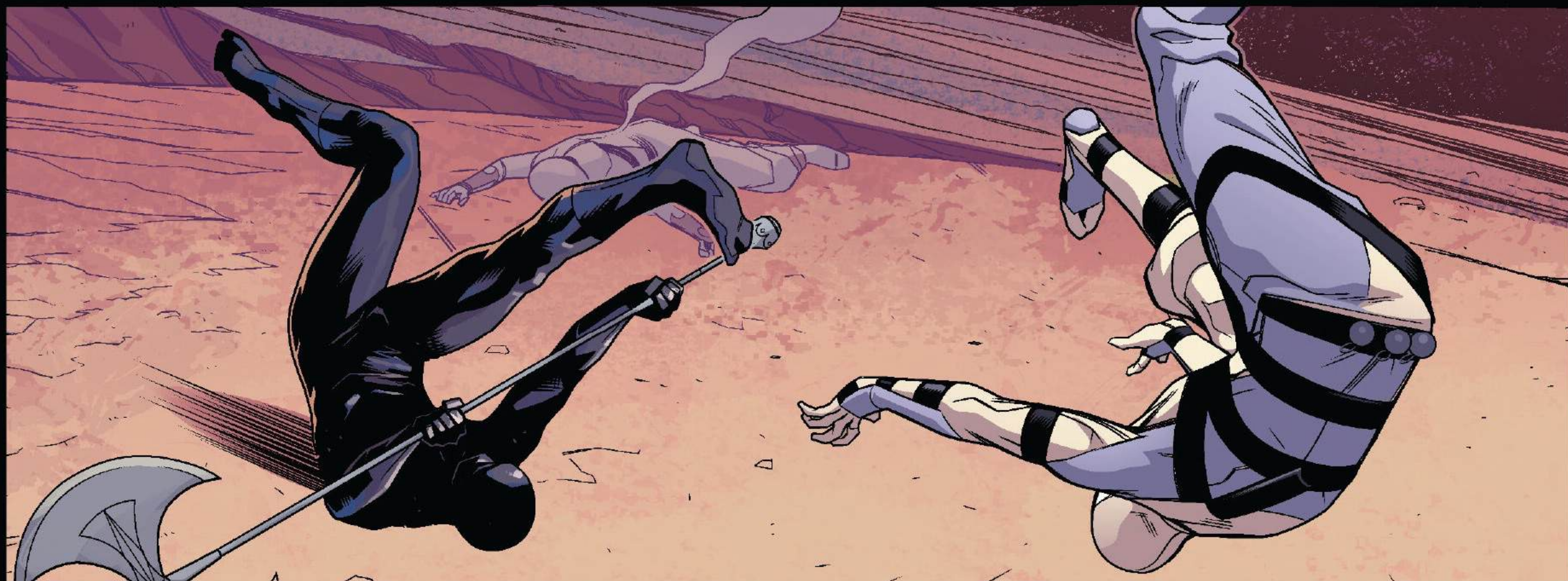
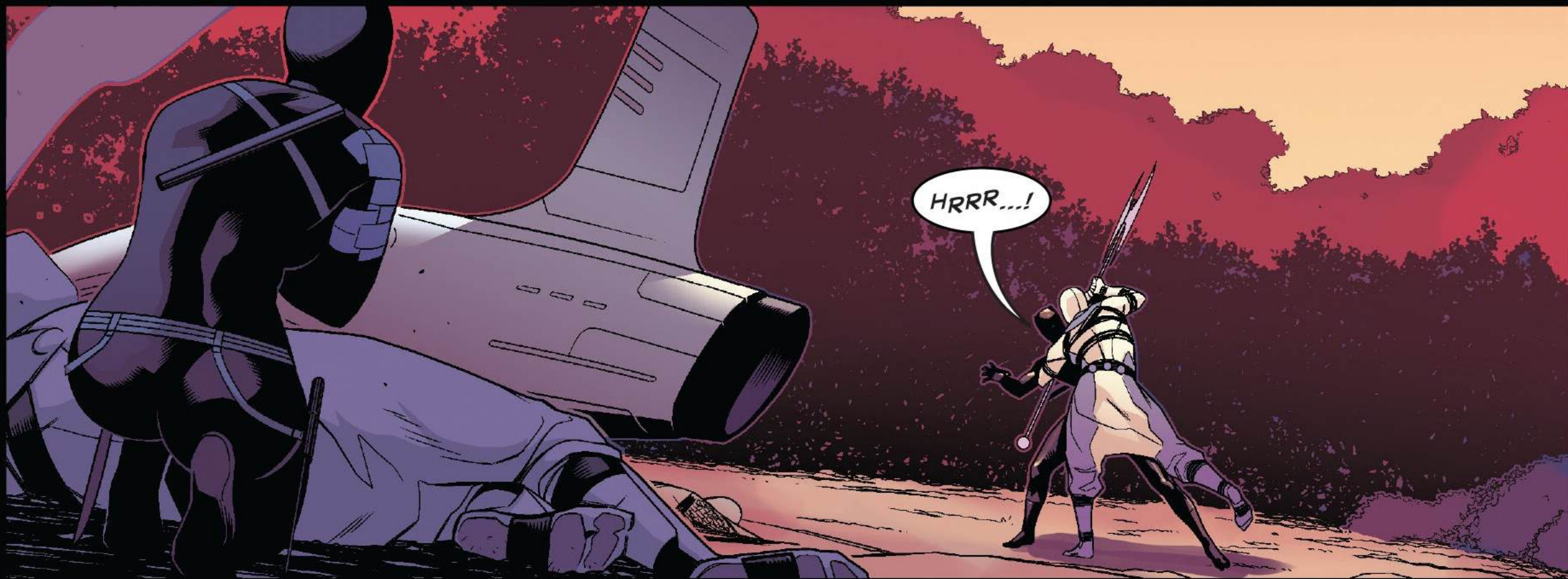






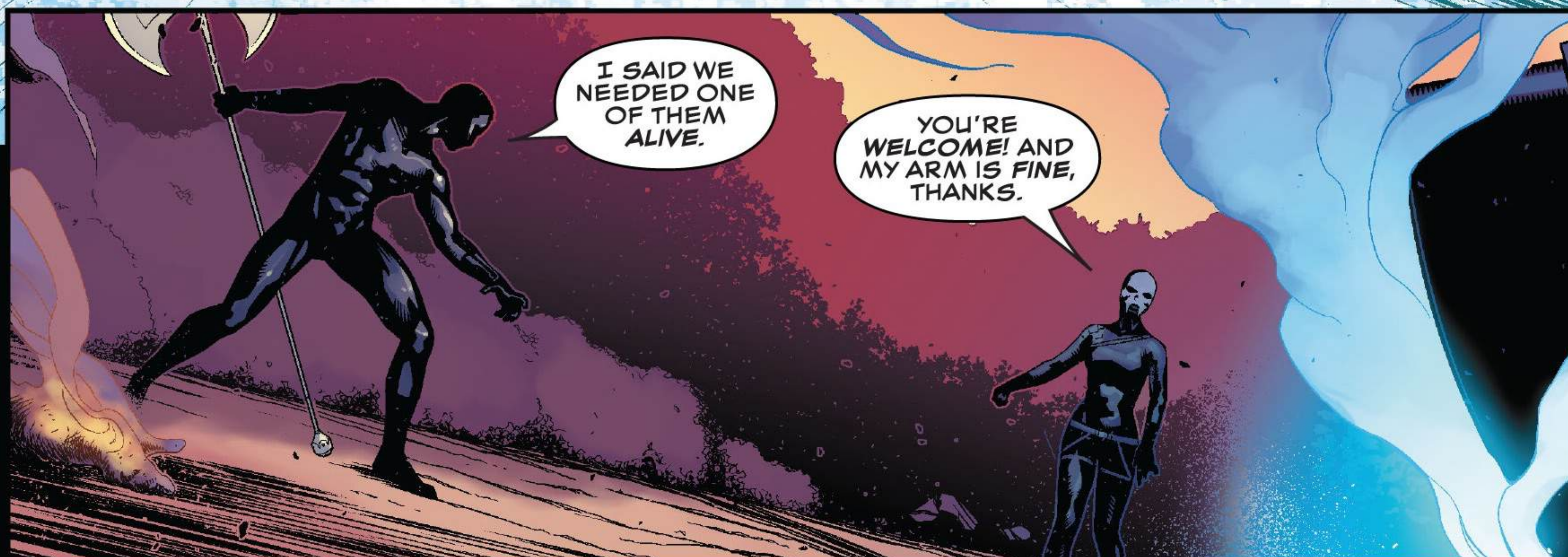


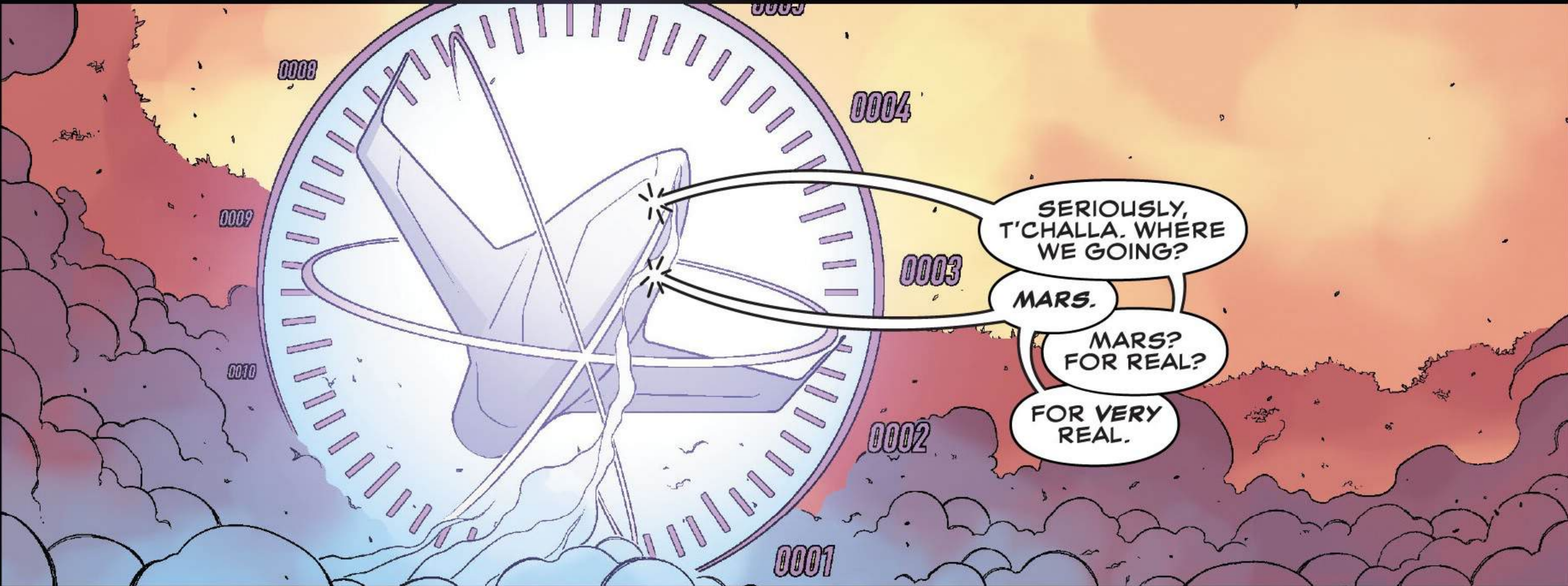
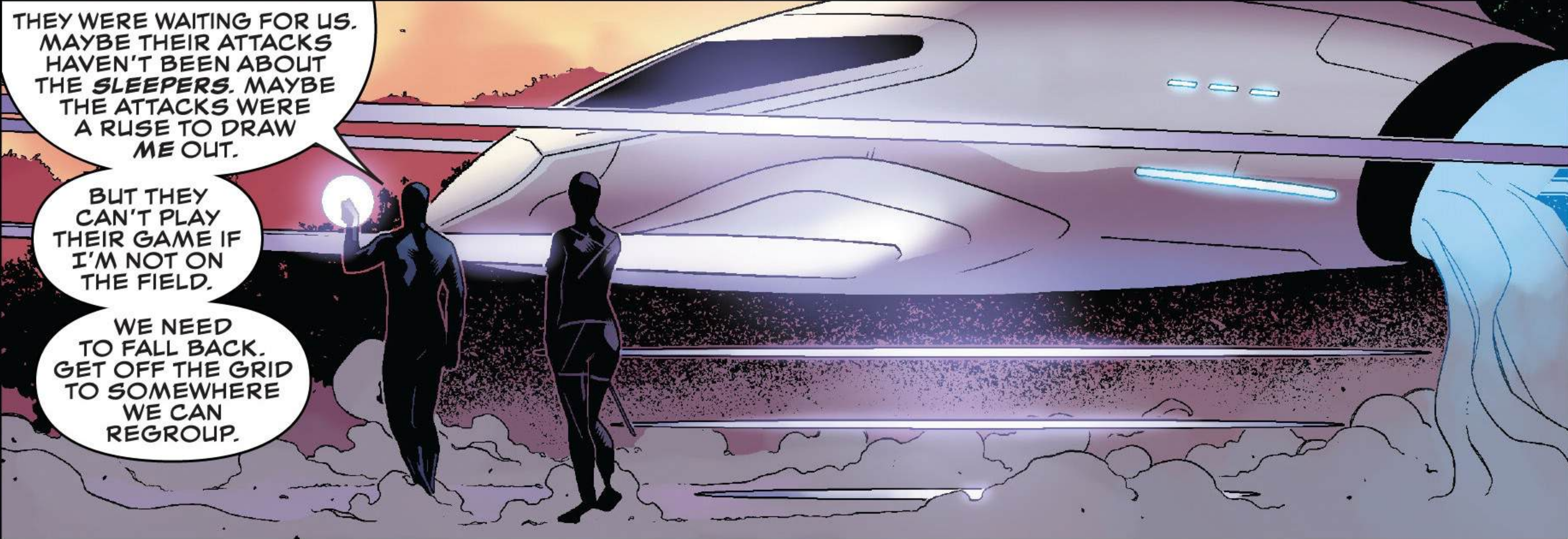


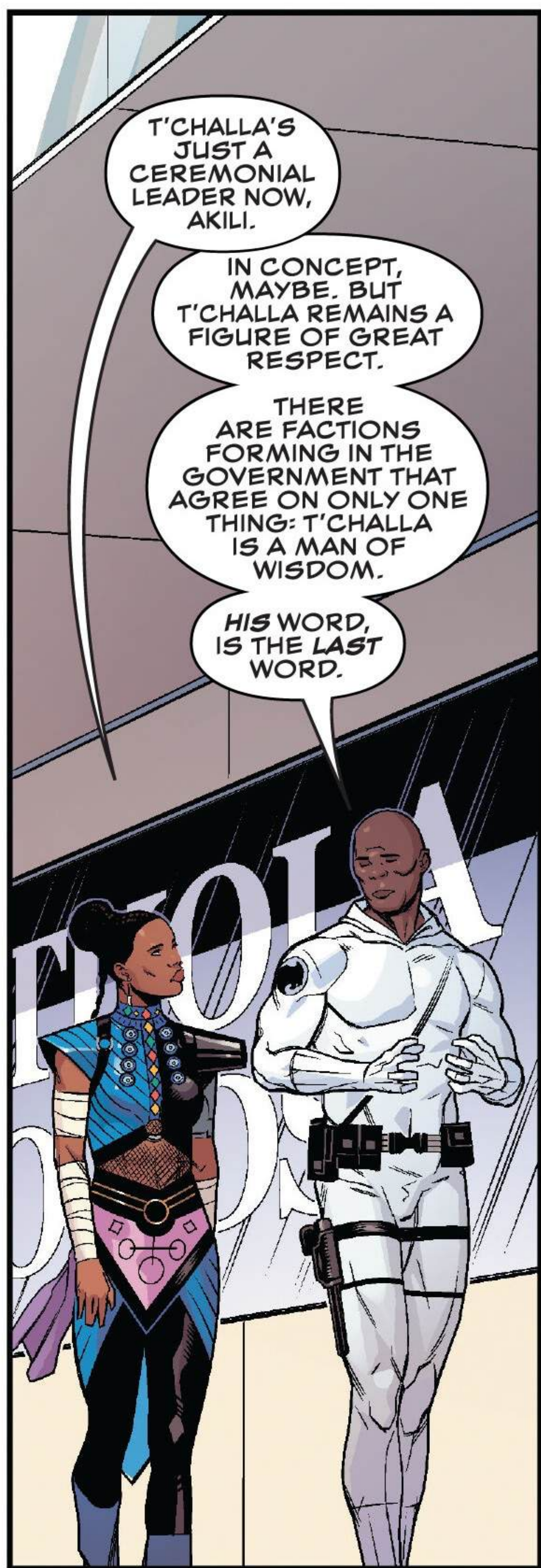
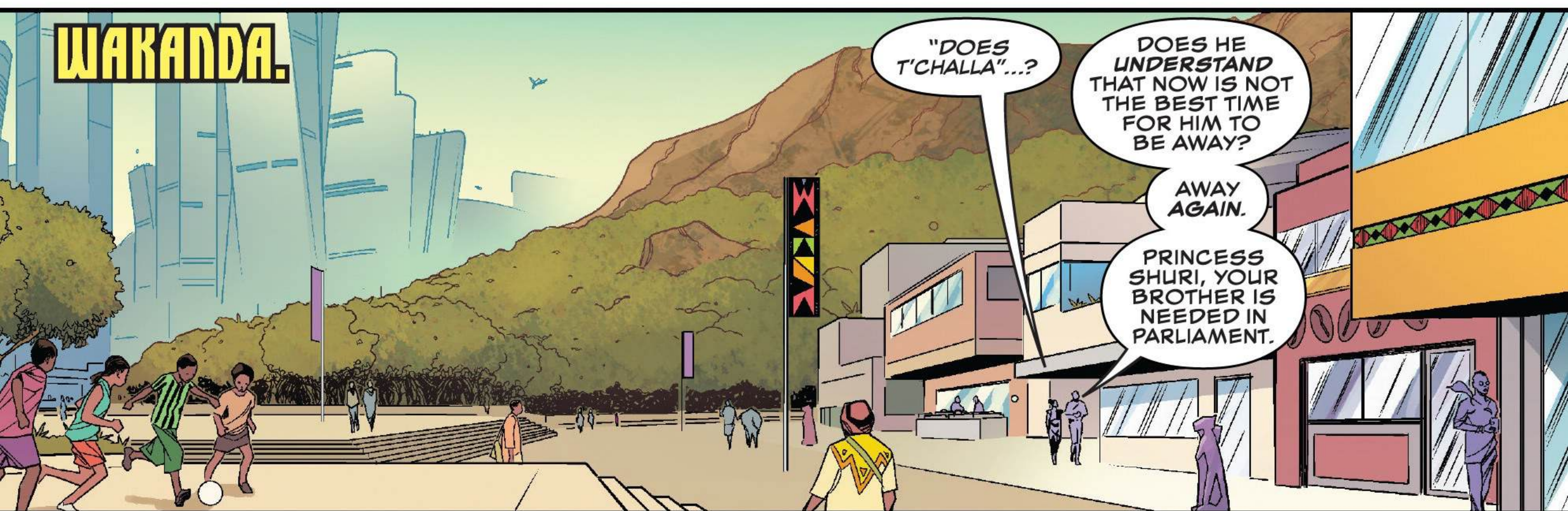




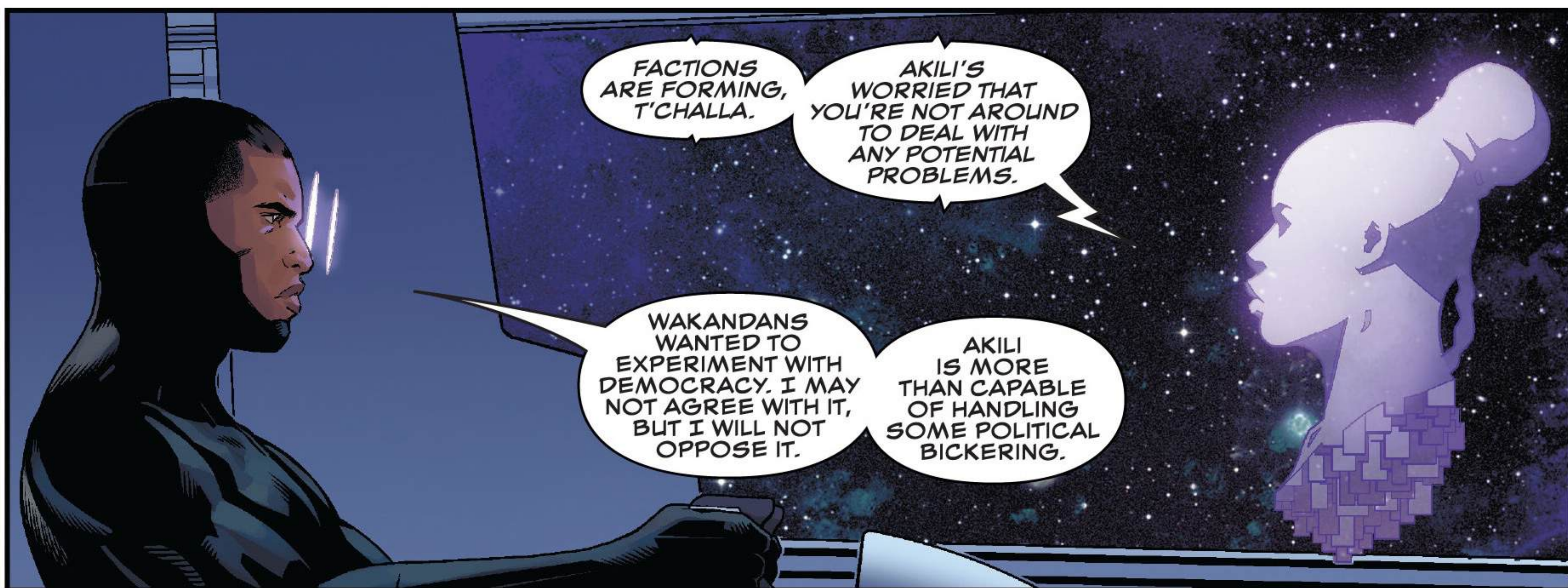
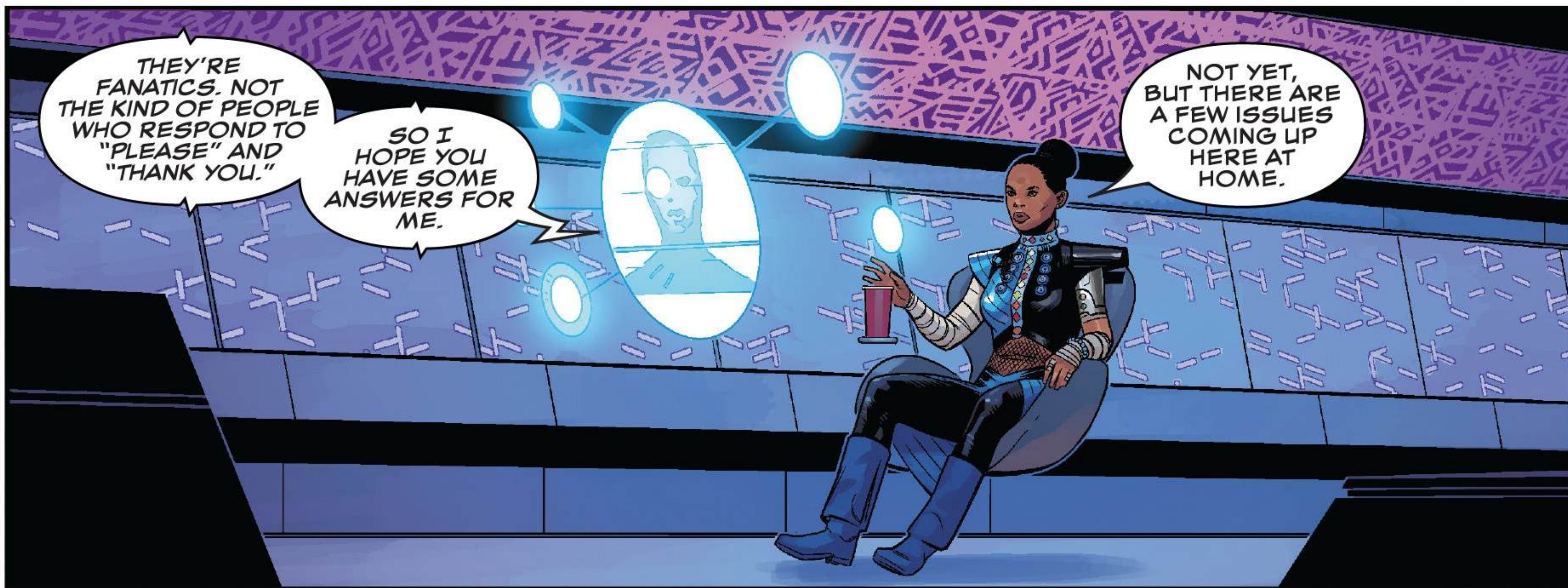
AHHHH!

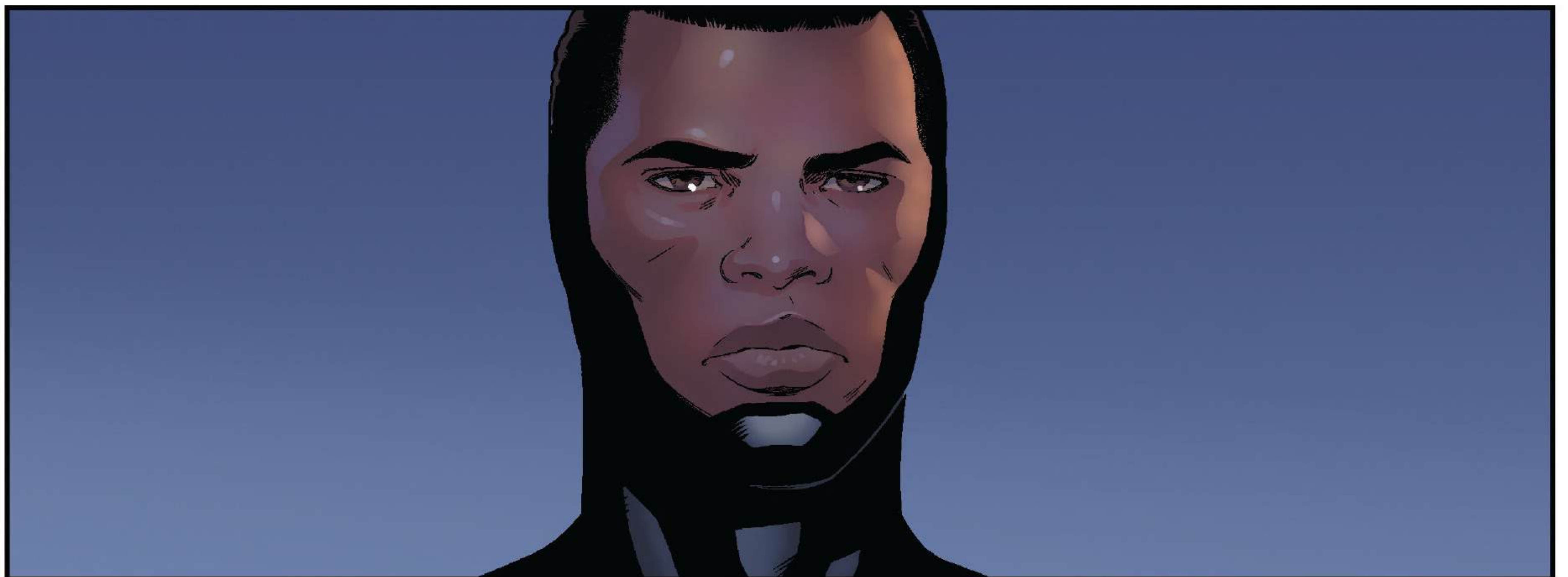


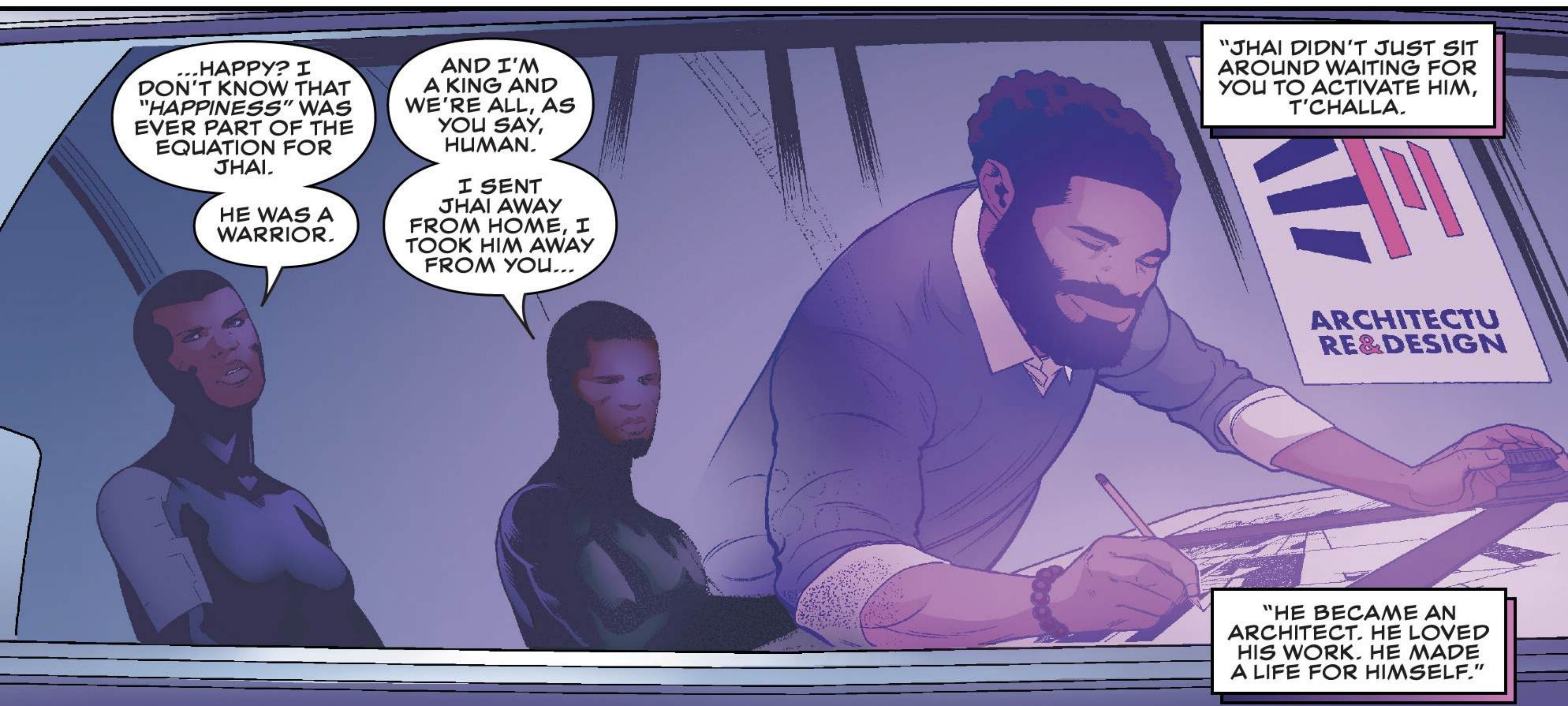












...HAPPY? I DON'T KNOW THAT "HAPPINESS" WAS EVER PART OF THE EQUATION FOR JHAI.

HE WAS A WARRIOR.

AND I'M A KING AND WE'RE ALL, AS YOU SAY, HUMAN.

I SENT JHAI AWAY FROM HOME, I TOOK HIM AWAY FROM YOU...

"JHAI DIDN'T JUST SIT AROUND WAITING FOR YOU TO ACTIVATE HIM, T'CHALLA.

"HE BECAME AN ARCHITECT. HE LOVED HIS WORK. HE MADE A LIFE FOR HIMSELF."



HE LIVED THE LIFE I MADE HIM LIVE.

WHAT DID YOU TELL ME ABOUT REGRET BEING USELESS?

AND WHAT DID YOU TELL ME ABOUT OWNING UP TO REMORSE?

YEAH, WELL... ONE DAY WE'LL LEARN TO TAKE EACH OTHER'S ADVICE, AND WON'T THAT BE SOMETHING.



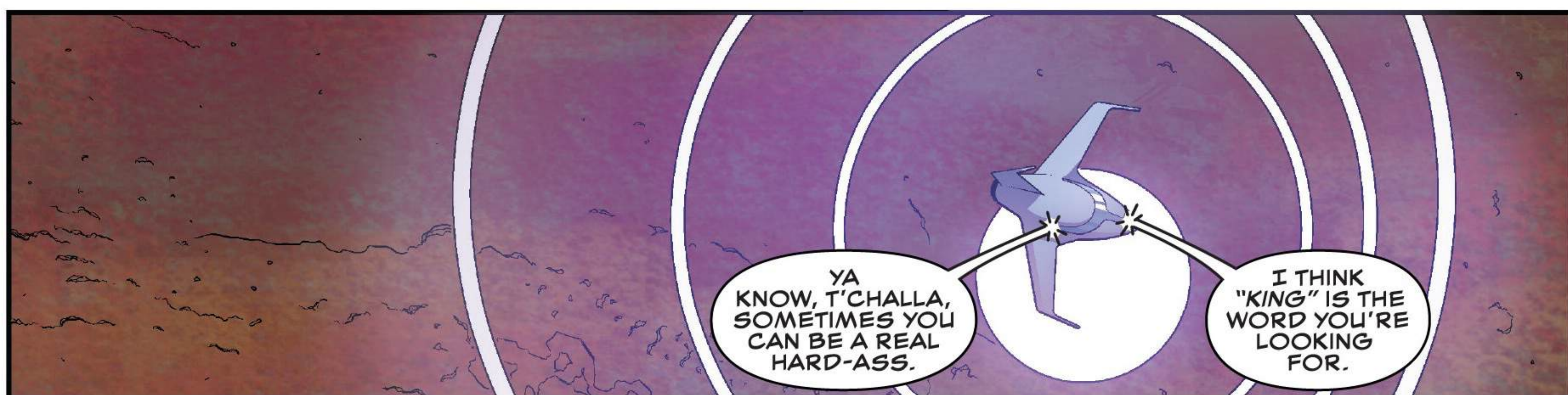
T'CHALLA... ARE YOU HAPPY? HAVE YOU EVER BEEN?



WE'RE COMING UP ON MARS. I'M STARTING THE LANDING SEQUENCE.

DIDN'T ANSWER MY QUESTION.

I'M BUSY.



YA KNOW, T'CHALLA, SOMETIMES YOU CAN BE A REAL HARD-ASS.

I THINK "KING" IS THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.





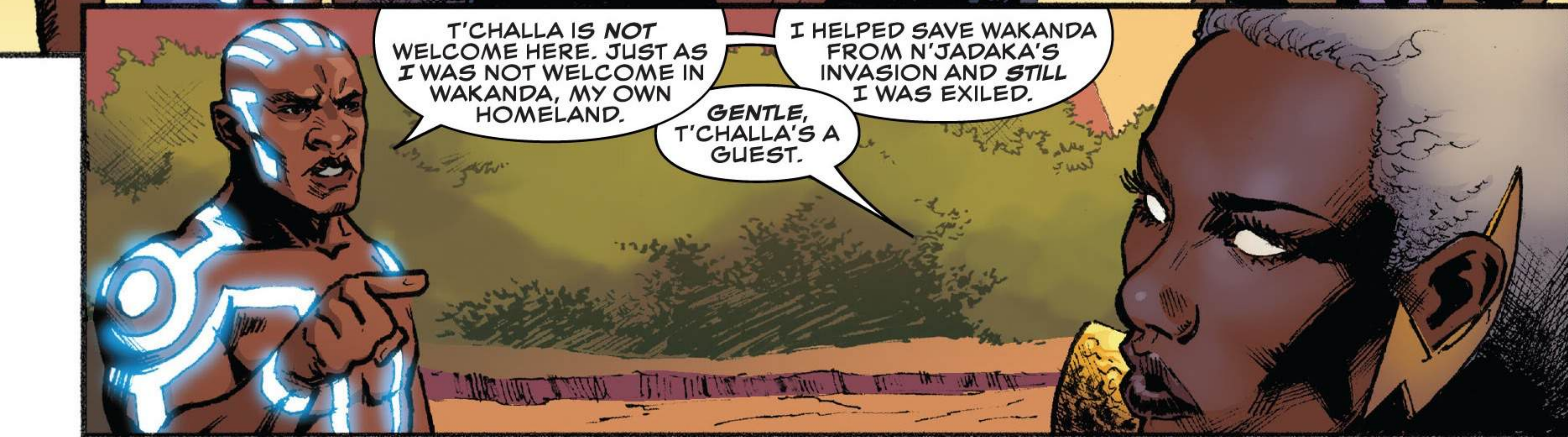
WELCOME TO ARAKKO.



IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU.

IT'S WONDERFUL TO SEE YOU. AND YOU'VE BROUGHT GREETERS.

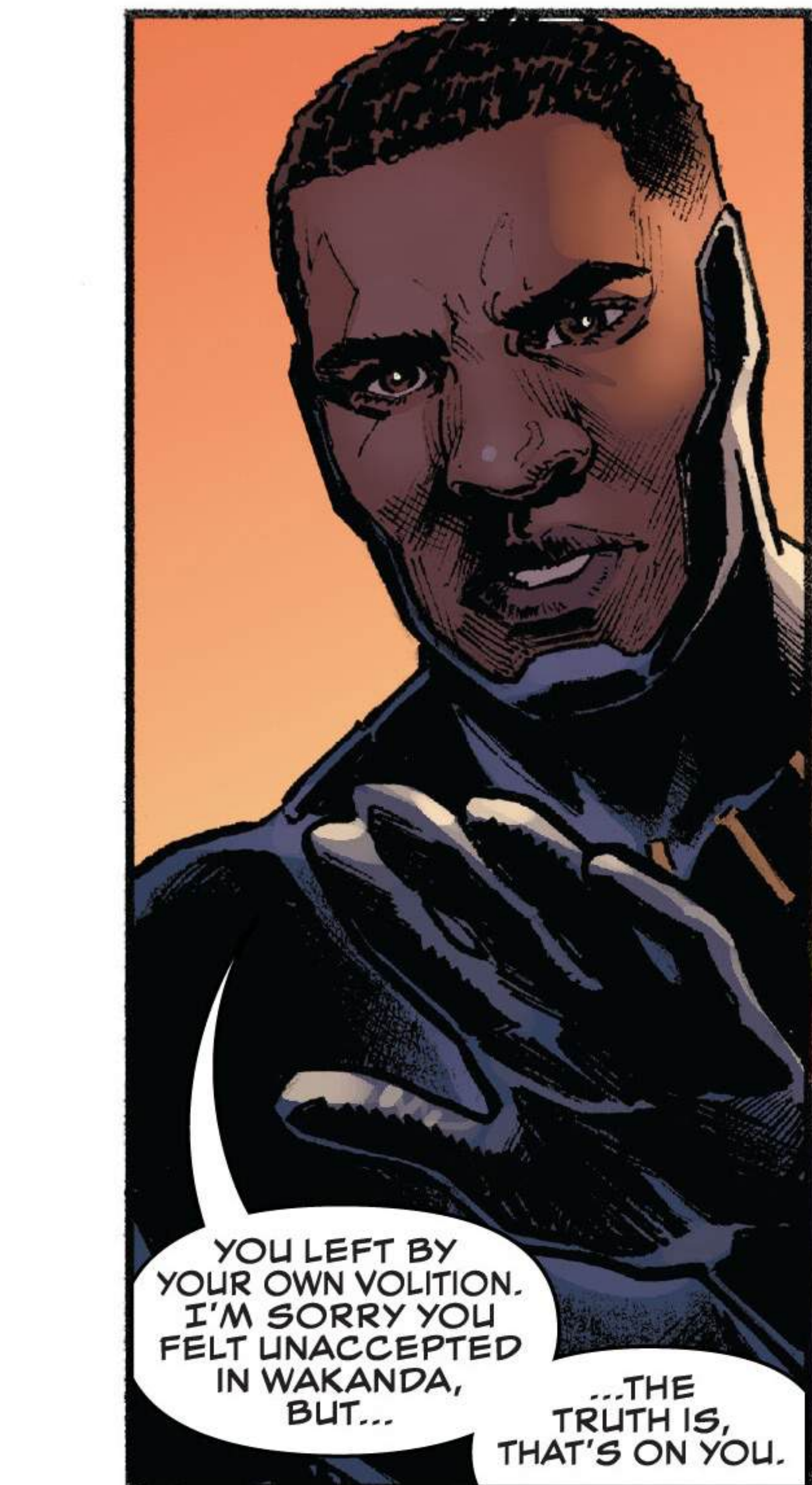
STORMY SAID HER EX-HUSBAND WAS COMING BY. GAMBIT WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU AIN'T HERE TO BREAK HER HEART. AGAIN.



T'CHALLA IS NOT WELCOME HERE. JUST AS I WAS NOT WELCOME IN WAKANDA, MY OWN HOMELAND.

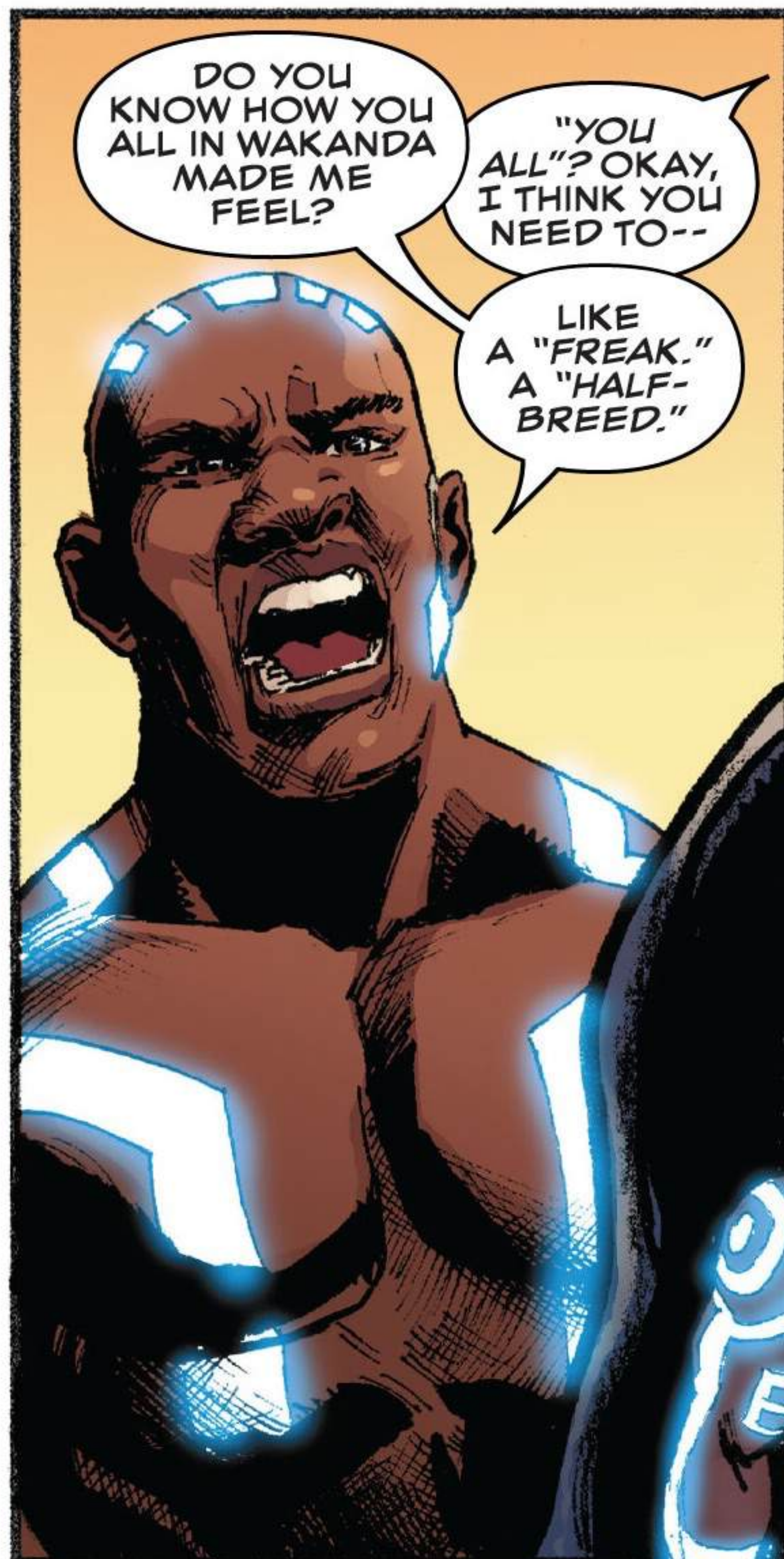
I HELPED SAVE WAKANDA FROM N'JADAKA'S INVASION AND STILL I WAS EXILED.

GENTLE, T'CHALLA'S A GUEST.



YOU LEFT BY YOUR OWN VOLITION. I'M SORRY YOU FELT UNACCEPTED IN WAKANDA, BUT...

...THE TRUTH IS, THAT'S ON YOU.



DO YOU KNOW HOW YOU ALL IN WAKANDA MADE ME FEEL?

"YOU ALL"? OKAY, I THINK YOU NEED TO--

LIKE A "FREAK." A "HALF-BREED."

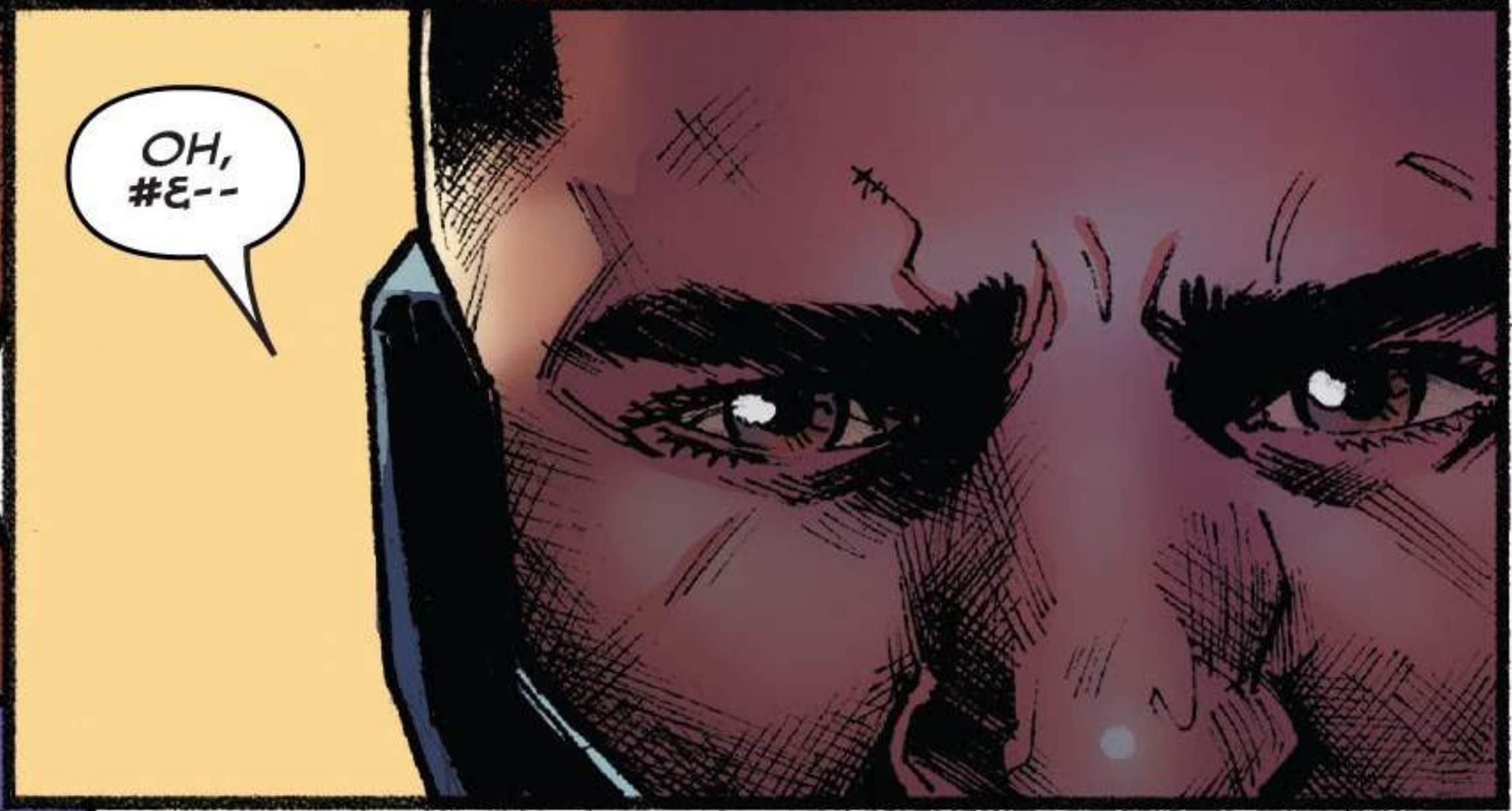
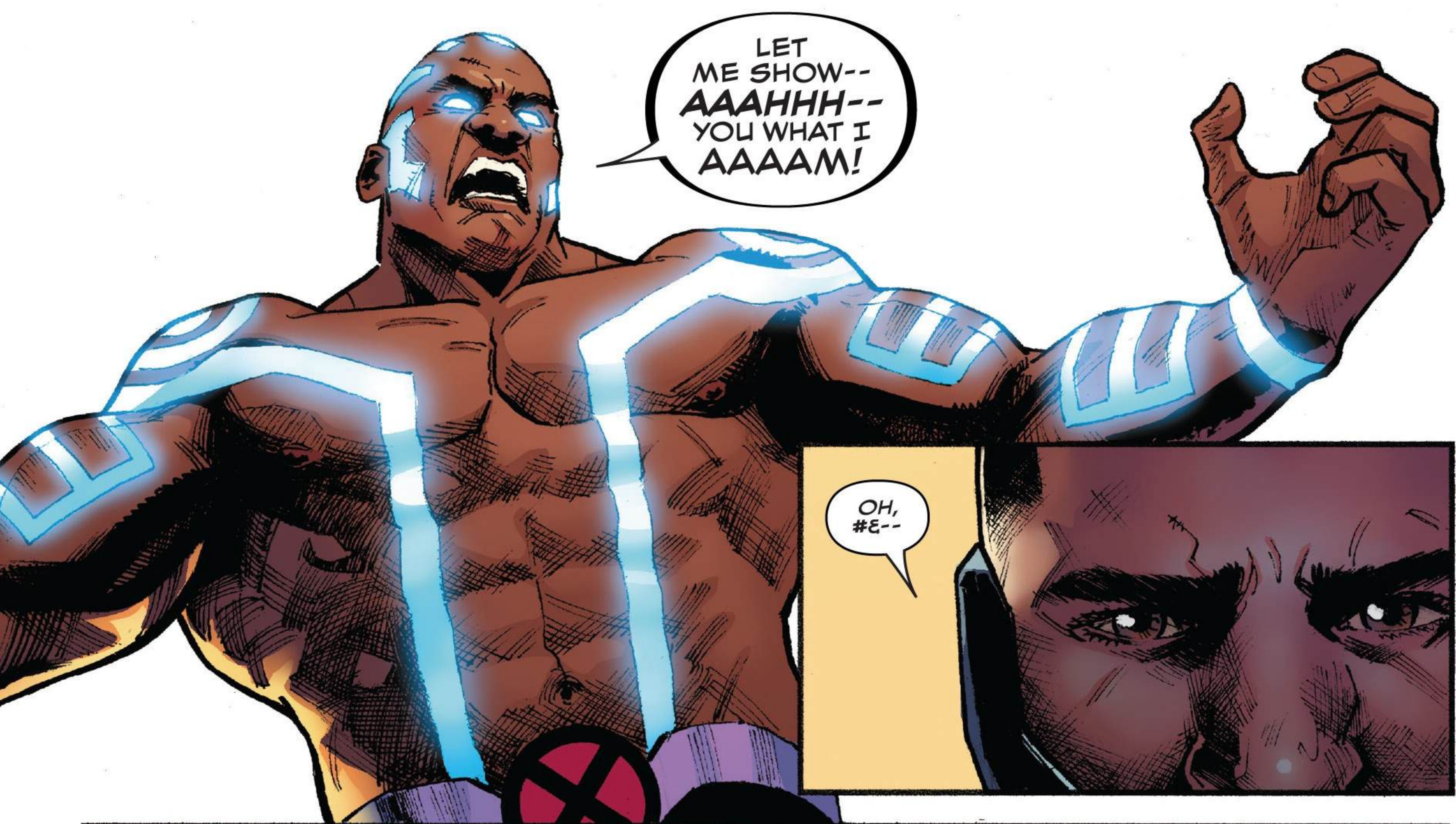


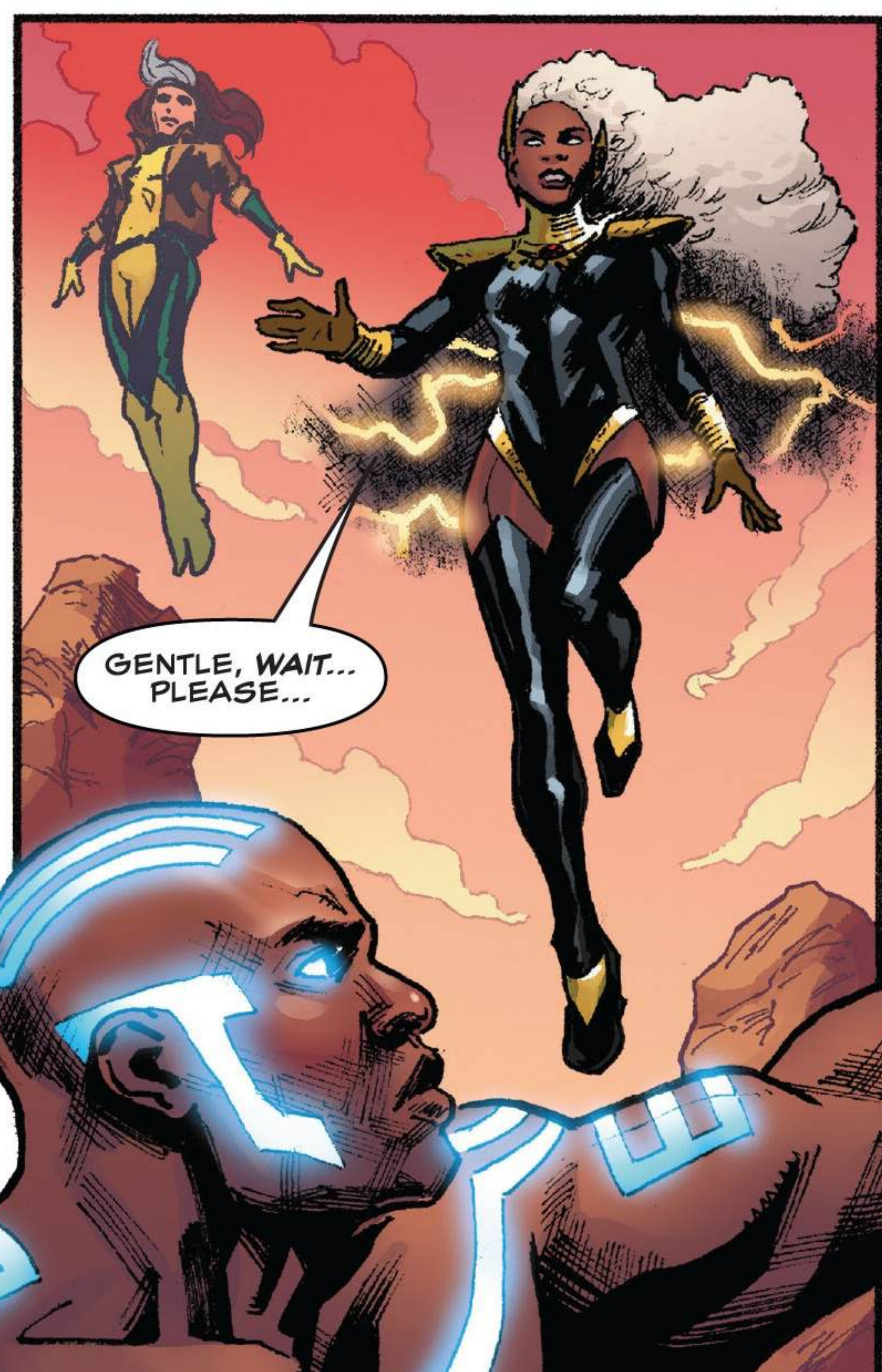
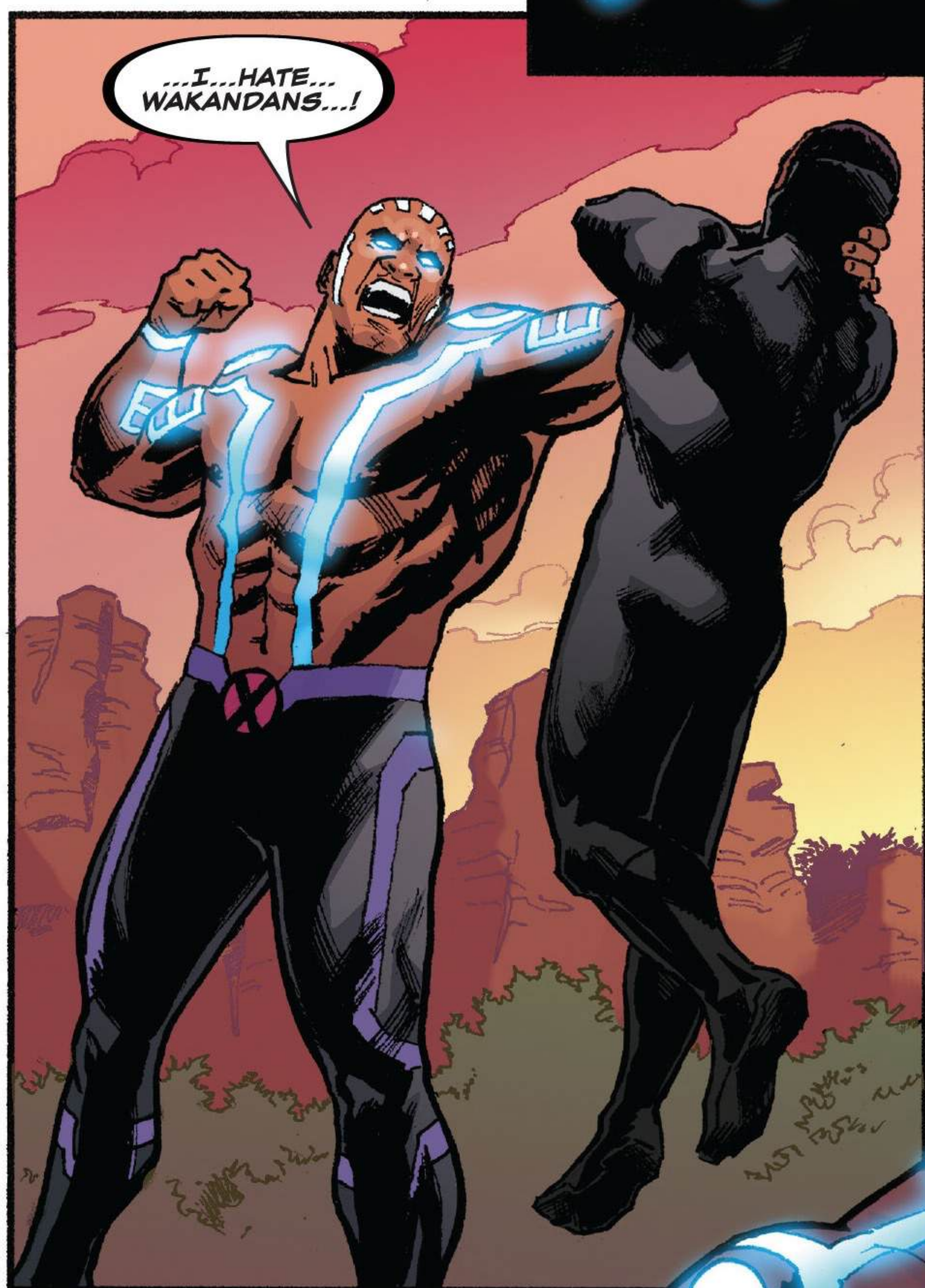
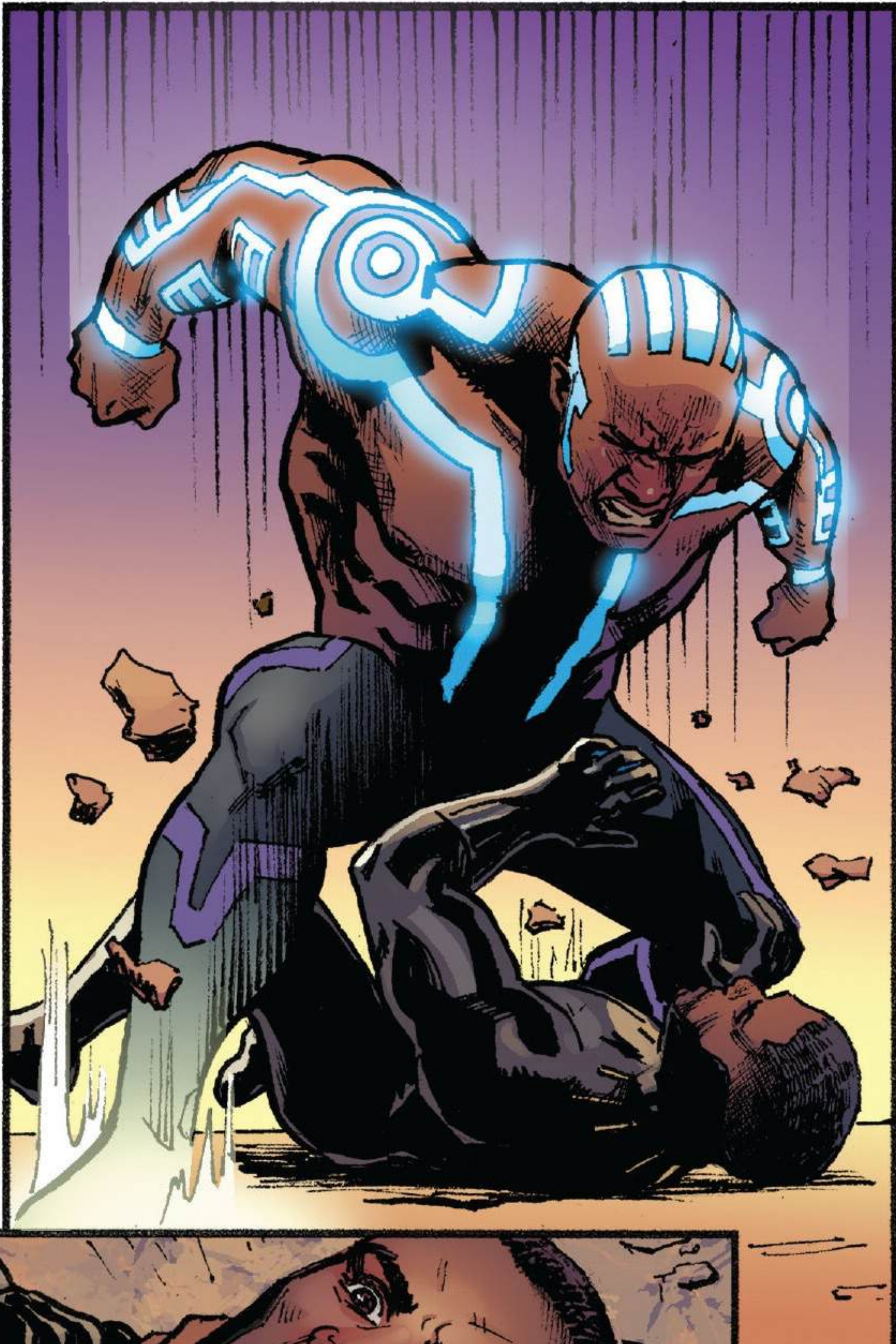
UHHH...HE OKAY?

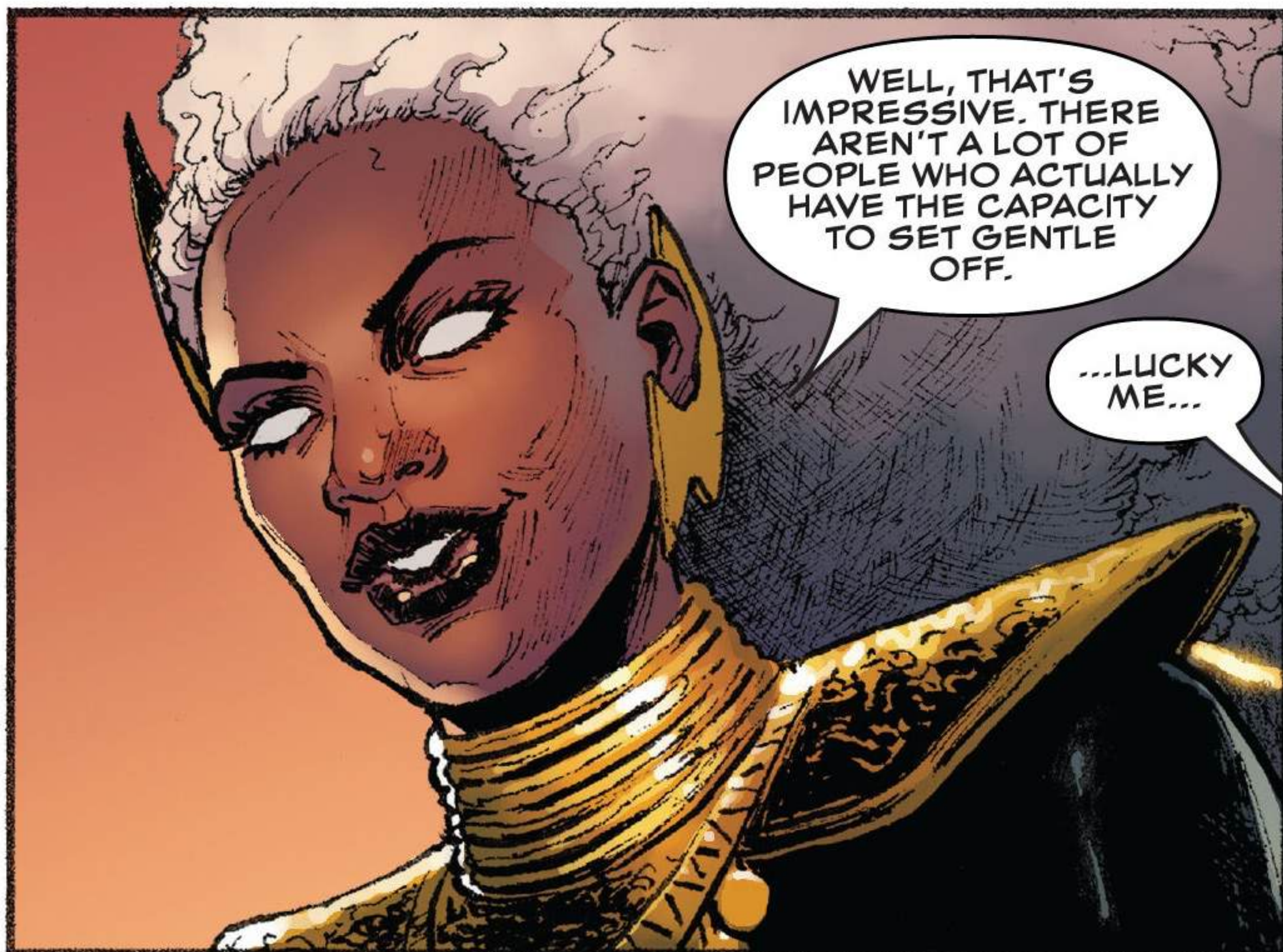
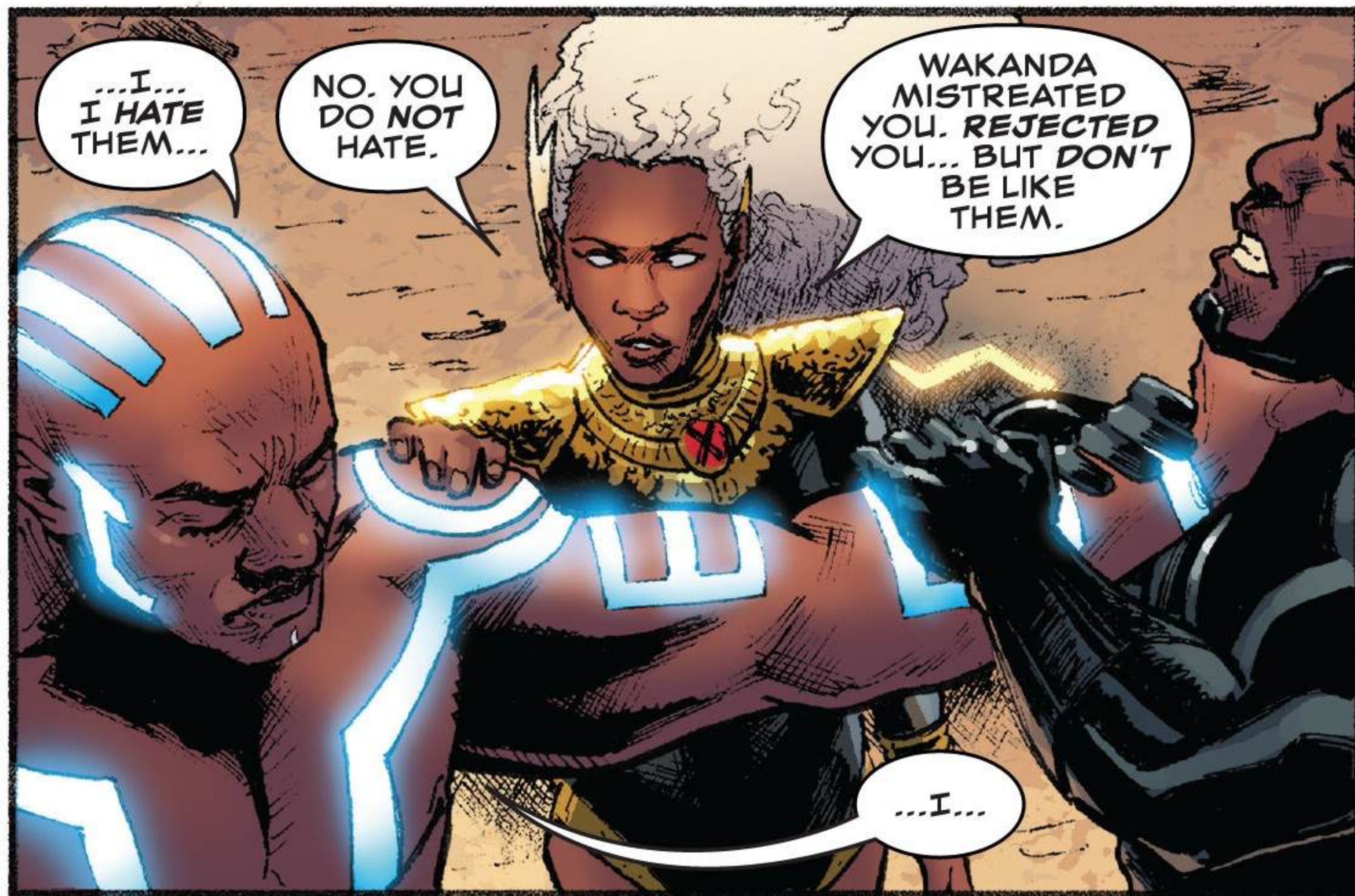
GENTLE...MIGHT WANT TO TAKE A COUPLE OF DEEP BREATHS.

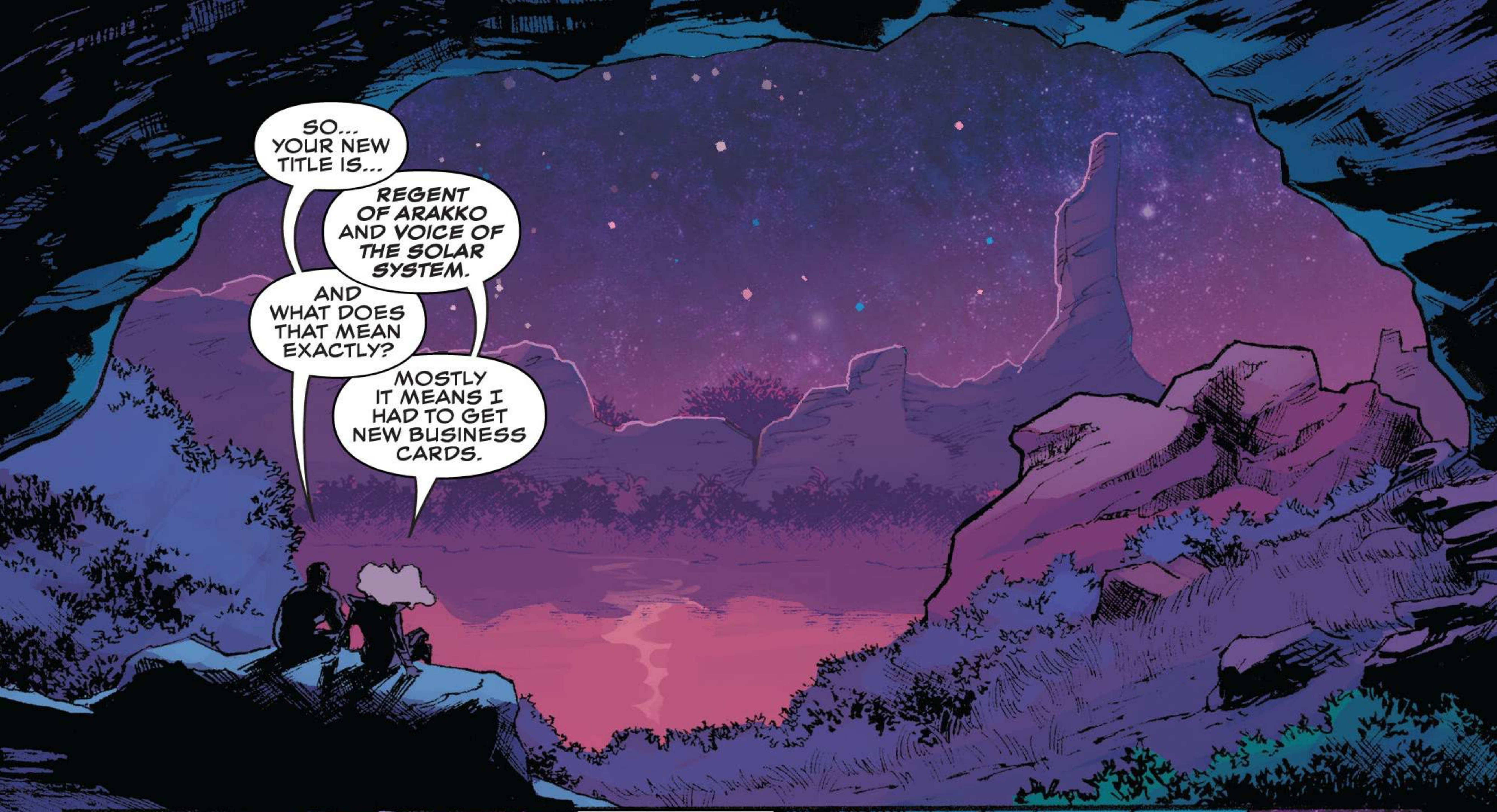
LET THEM WORK IT OUT, ROGUE. MIGHT BE GOOD FOR HIM.

FOR WHICH "HIM"?









SO...
YOUR NEW
TITLE IS...

REGENT
OF ARAKKO
AND VOICE OF
THE SOLAR
SYSTEM.

AND
WHAT DOES
THAT MEAN
EXACTLY?

MOSTLY
IT MEANS I
HAD TO GET
NEW BUSINESS
CARDS.



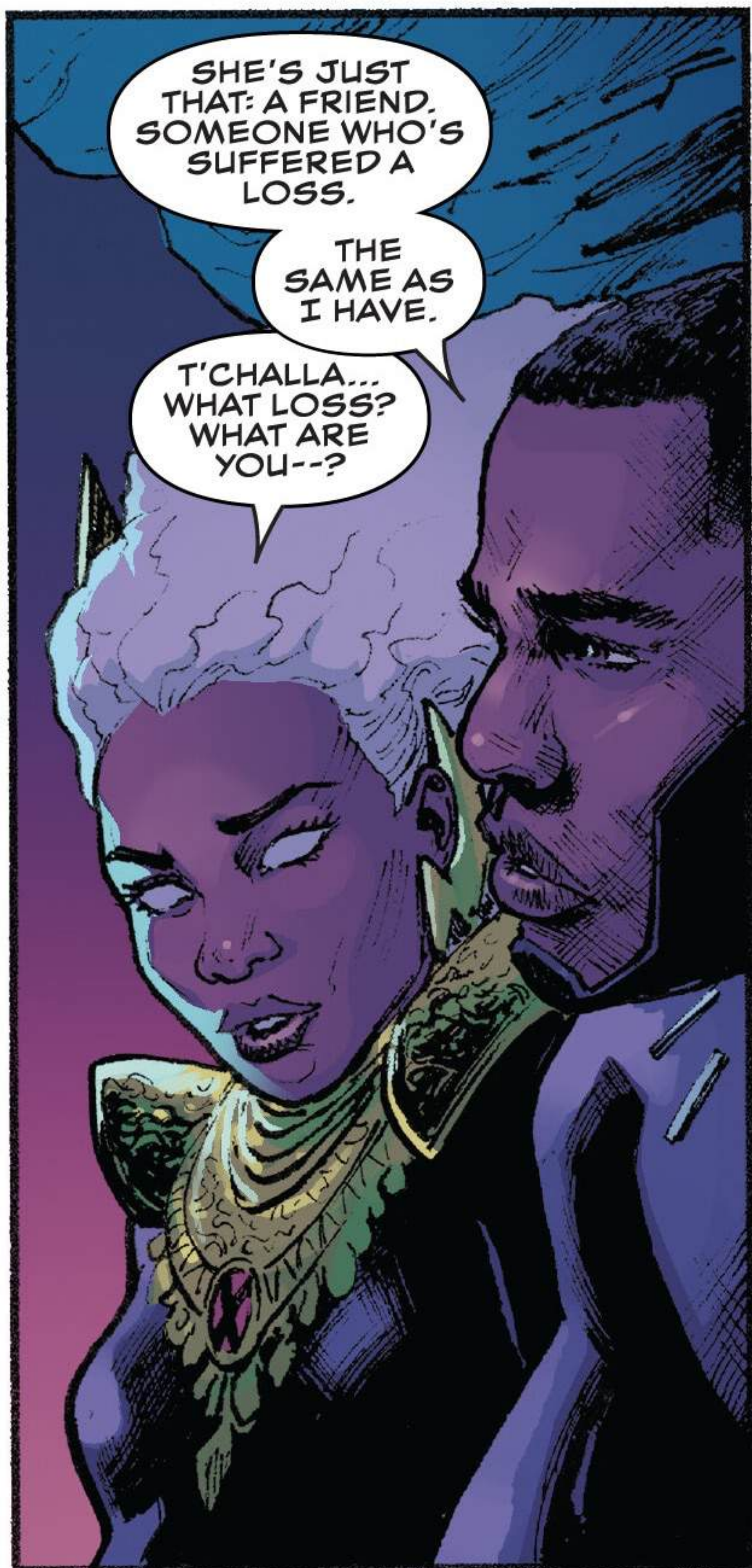
WELL, LOOK AT
THAT. THE KING
SMILES.



I COULD USE
SOME SMILING.
IT'S THE REASON
I'M HERE.

YEAH,
ABOUT THAT.
NOT THAT I DON'T
LOVE SEEING
YOU, BUT...

WHY ARE
YOU HERE, AND
WHO'S YOUR
FRIEND?



SHE'S JUST
THAT: A FRIEND.
SOMEONE WHO'S
SUFFERED A
LOSS.

THE
SAME AS
I HAVE.

T'CHALLA...
WHAT LOSS?
WHAT ARE
YOU--?



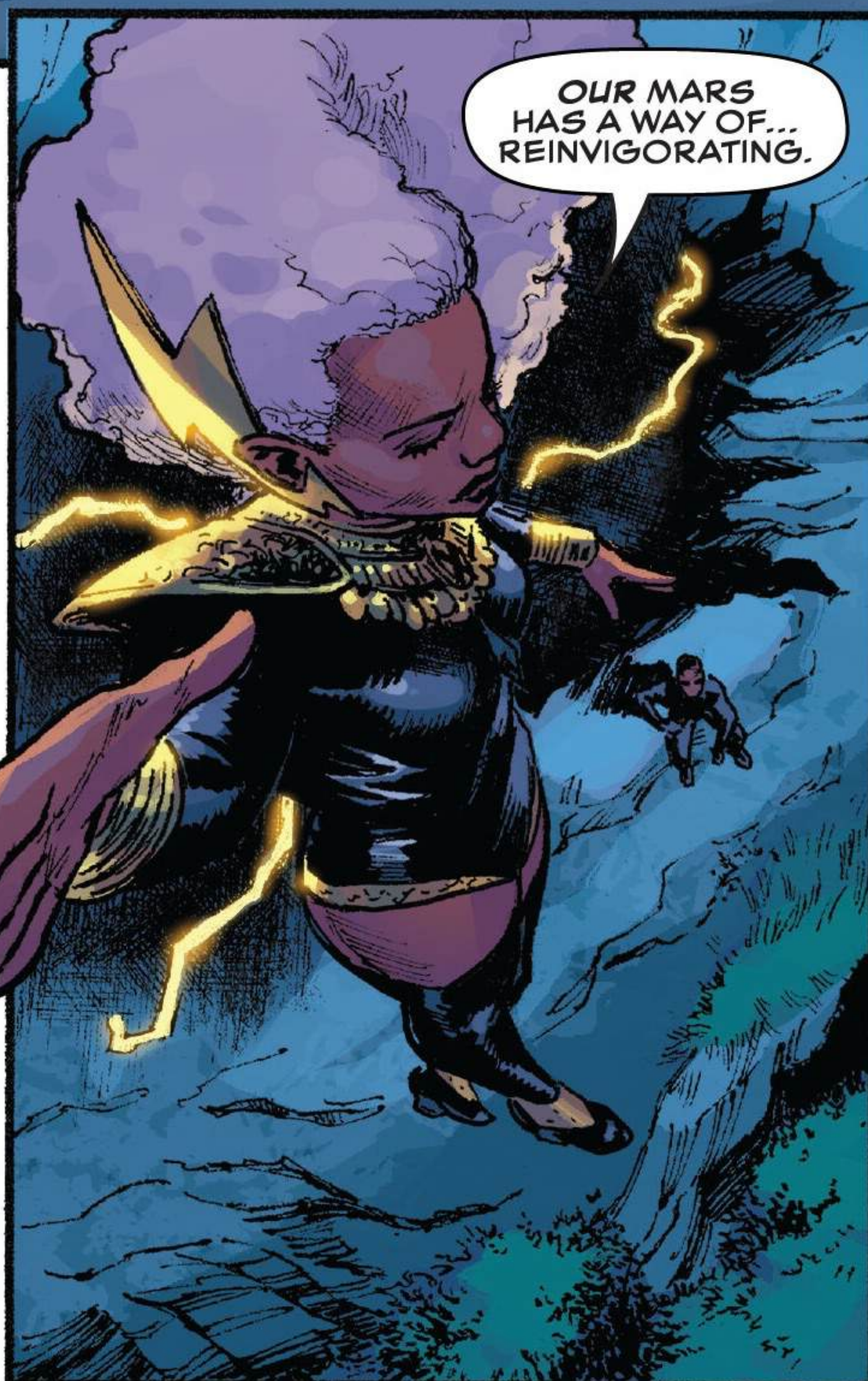
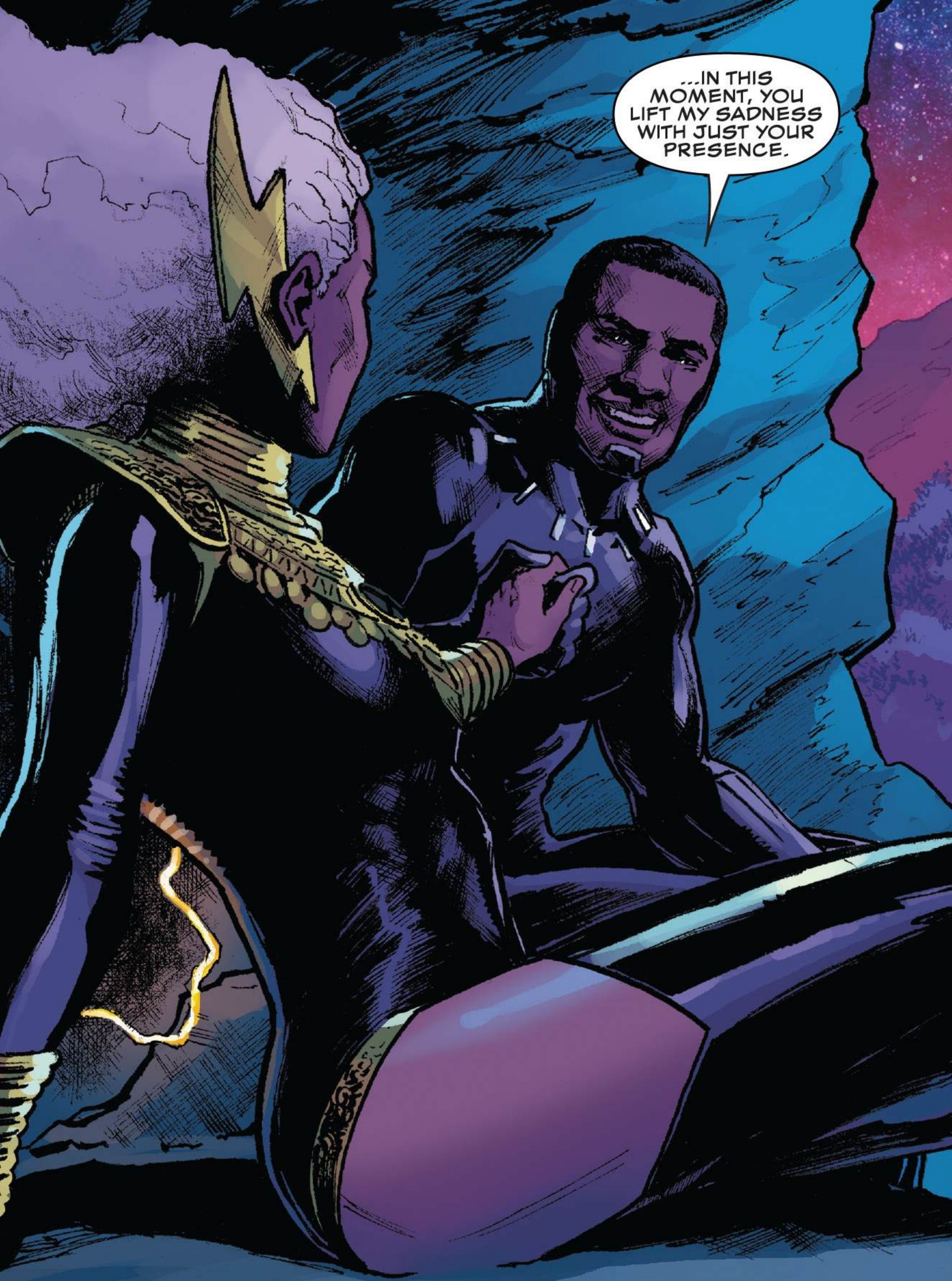
...I CAN'T
TALK ABOUT
IT.

WHEN YOU
AND I GOT BACK
TOGETHER, WE
PROMISED: NO
SECRETS. NEVER
AGAIN.



I'M NOT
BEING SECRETIVE.
I CAN'T TALK ABOUT
WHAT HAPPENED
BECAUSE I'M
STILL WORKING
THROUGH IT.

WHAT
I CAN TELL
YOU...





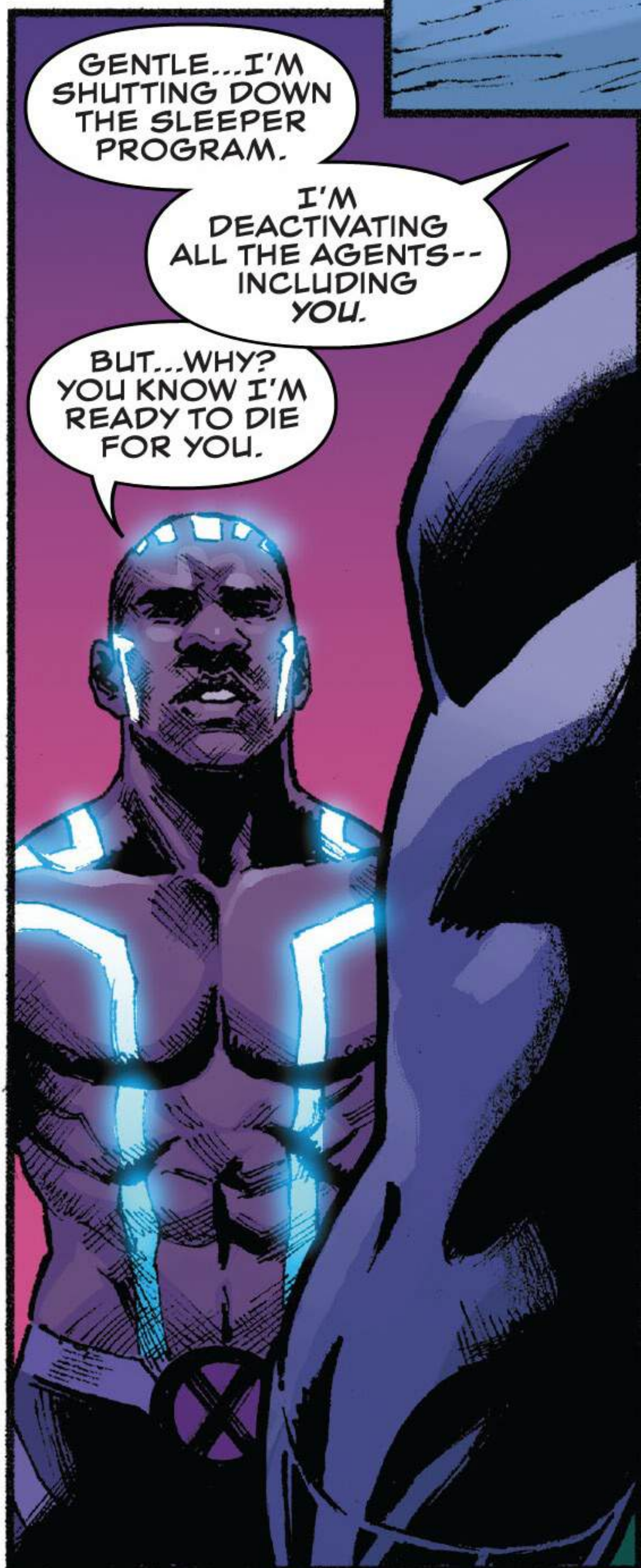
...T'CHALLA...



HEY, GENTLE.

YOUR HIGHNESS, I'M SORRY IF I HURT YOU.

NO. YOU HAD TO MAKE IT LOOK GOOD.



GENTLE...I'M SHUTTING DOWN THE SLEEPER PROGRAM.

I'M DEACTIVATING ALL THE AGENTS-- INCLUDING YOU.

BUT...WHY? YOU KNOW I'M READY TO DIE FOR YOU.



SOMEONE KNOWS ABOUT THE PROGRAM. OTHER AGENTS HAVE BEEN ATTACKED.

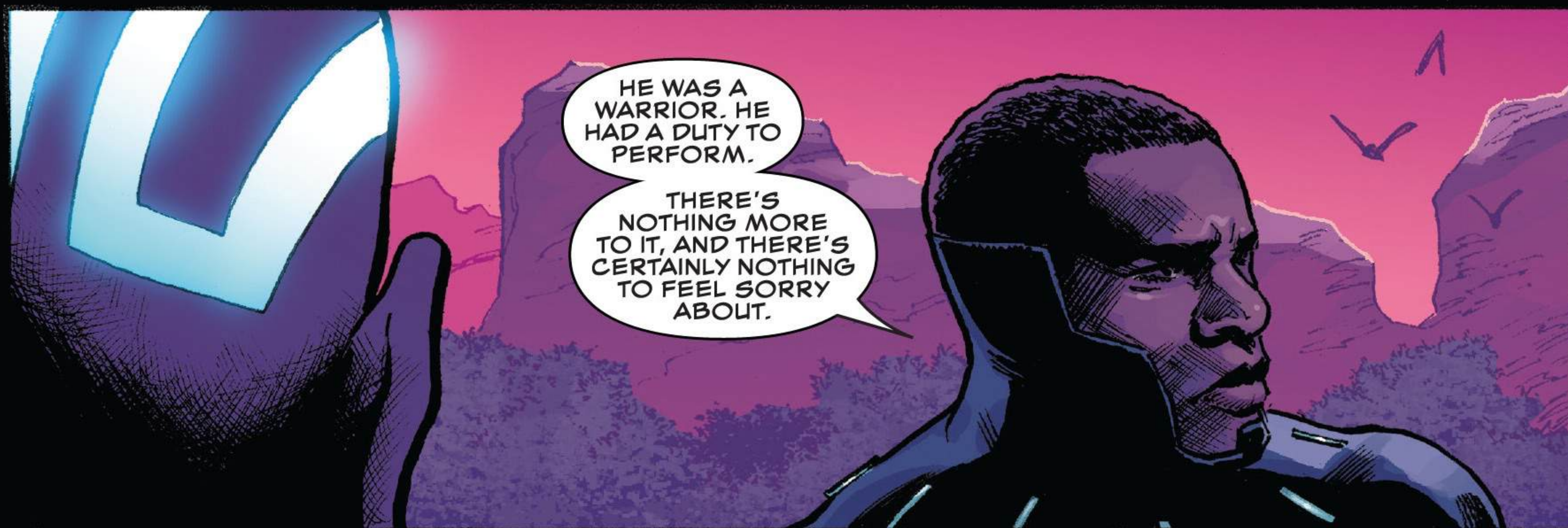
I'M GETTING THEM BACK TO WAKANDA. YOU SHOULD BE SAFE HERE.



BUT GENTLE...JHAI'S DEAD. HE WAS MURDERED.



...I'M SORRY...



This is the 200TH issue of **BLACK PANTHER** since the launch of his first solo series in 1977 (which was written and drawn by his co-creator, **Jack “King” Kirby**). To celebrate this momentous milestone, we’ve got two additional bonus stories for you! One is a tale from early in T’Challa’s reign as king of Wakanda by the amazingly talented cartoonist **Juni Ba** (check out his Image series called *Monkey Meat!*). And the other is a tale set in the very near future about a new Wakandan hero who will be playing a significant role in the series going forward.



A TAIL TALE OF TRICKS

Writer/Artist ||||| **JUNI BA**

Color Artist ||||| **CHRIS O'HALLORAN**

Letterer ||||| **vc's JOE SABINO**

THE WAKANDAN

Writer ||||| **JOHN RIDLEY**

Artist ||||| **GERMÁN PERALTA**

Color Artist ||||| **JESUS ABURTOV**

Letterer ||||| **vc's JOE SABINO**

OPEN YOUR EARS
WIDE, SO YOU
MAY HEAR MY TALE.

I SHALL TELL IT TO YOU
AS IT WAS TOLD TO ME,
AND TOLD FOR EVERY
GENERATION SINCE.
THE STORY OF THE DAY
THE GODDESS BAST
ALMOST PERISHED.

ON THE SEVENTH DAY OF
THE SEVENTH MONTH OF
HIS REIGN, KING T'CHALLA
WAS SUMMONED TO
BAST'S CHAMBER.

I'VE FALLEN
VICTIM TO
TREACHERY, AND
ONLY THE AID OF THE
CHAMPION OF
WAKANDA CAN
SAVE ME.



"EVEN AS DEATH VISIBLY
SPREADS THROUGH ME,"
SAID BAST, "SO IT DOES
IN THE VEINS OF YOUR
VIBRANIUM MINES AND THE
ROOTS OF YOUR CROPS."

SHOULD I
DIE...SO WOULD
WAKANDA.

WHO
DID THIS
TO YOU?



SO BAST INFORMED HIM OF THE EXISTENCE OF THE DJINNE, MAN-EATING CREATURES FROM A WORLD TO WHICH NOT EVEN WAKANDAN TECHNOLOGY COULD BUILD A BRIDGE.

THE ONE WHO HURT ME WAS **SAY-SAY**, THE MOST TREACHEROUS OF ALL.

EONS AGO, A PREVIOUS KING CONTRACTED A DEBT WITH HIM, AND NOW **SAY-SAY** HAS COME TO COLLECT...

...BY DEMANDING THAT THE BLACK PANTHER GO FIND HIM AND RUN AN ERRAND FOR HIM IN THE LAND OF THE DJINNE.

ONLY THEN WILL HE FREE ME FROM MY CURSE.



"HAVE NO FEAR, BAST," SAID OUR KING, "I WILL GO AND DO WHAT MUST BE DONE."

"BUT," HE ADDED, "IF OUR TECHNOLOGY CANNOT REACH THAT PLACE, HOW WILL I GET THERE?"



SHE ANSWERED HIM WITH TEETH.

GLUPS

AND AS THE PANTHER PROWLED THROUGH HER THROAT AND DOWN INTO A PORTAL, HE HEARD BAST'S WARNING...

"MY SON, TO ENSURE YOUR SURVIVAL, REVEAL NEITHER YOUR NAME, NOR YOUR FACE. GOOD LUCK, MY CHAMPION."

AH! THE KING OF MEN. MASTER OF TOOLS AND SLAVE TO HIS TOYS! WELCOME!

POOF

AS NEW AIR, FRESHER THAN HE HAD EVER BREATHED, FILLED HIS LUNGS, THE PANTHER TURNED TO HIS FOE.

ARE YOU... HIM?



I AM
INDEED SAI-SAI,
MISCHIEVOUS AND
CRAFTY! THE YOUNGEST
AND CLEVEREST
OF DJINNE!



TELLER OF
TALES...

SHAPE-
SHIFTER...

AS HE CHANGED SHAPE, A
CHILL FILLED THE AIR--AS WELL
AS THE BONES OF OUR HERO.



...AND SOLE
OWNER OF THE
ONE TOOL THAT
CAN SAVE YOUR
GODDESS.



ENOUGH
POSTURING!
WHAT DO YOU
WANT?!

-TT TT TT-
DEAR BROTHER
PANTHER, YOUR
PREDECESSOR
WAS NICER WHEN HE
NEEDED MY HELP.
I SEE GRATITUDE
DOES NOT RUN
IN THE FAMILY.

REMEMBER,
YOU ARE
INDEBTED TO
ME.

OR DID YOUR
BIG CAT MOTHER
FORGET TO TEACH
YOU HOW TO SHOW
ME THE RESPECT
SUCH A SITUATION
REQUIRES?



...

AS
FOR WHAT
I WANT...

SWIFTING AND SCURRYING
IN THE BUSHES, HE LED
THE PANTHER TO AN OLD
TERMITE MOUND.



IN THERE LIVED THE MONSTROUS BARA, A FLESH-EATING GIANT WHOSE HUNTING DAYS WERE OVER SINCE HE LOST HIS SIGHT. BUT HE REMAINED A DANGEROUS COLOSSUS.

"THE DIRTY THIEF IS SITTING ON A TREASURE THAT IS MINE TO POSSESS," SAID THE TRICKSTER. "AN ITEM STORED IN A GOLDEN CASKET."



HE MAY BE BLIND, BUT HIS EAR IS SHARP, AND IF HE CATCHES YOU, HE'LL EAT YOU ALIVE!

YOU'LL NOTICE HE MAKES A LOT OF NOISE, SO ONLY MOVE WHEN HE DOES AND HIS SOUND WILL COVER YOURS AS YOU ESCAPE.

NO NEED FOR SUCH CONVOLUTED SCHEMES. MY SUIT HAS A DEVICE SET TO MUTE ANY SOUND I MAKE.



AH YES...LIKE I SAID: HUMANS... SLAVES TO THEIR TOYS.

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK. WHY DON'T YOU STICK TO ONE SHAPE INSTEAD OF ALWAYS SHIFTING IT? IT'S EXASPERATING.

WELL, YOUNG BROTHER...YOUR ARROGANCE MAKES YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHAT YOU ARE. MY FLEXIBILITY MEANS I CAN BE ANYTHING.



UNAMUSED, THE KING
MADE HIMSELF BURGLAR
AND SNUCK INTO THE
MONSTER'S HOME.

HE HIMSELF MADE NO SOUND,
THOUGH YOU COULDN'T TELL
OVER THE RUMBLING OF THE
BEAST'S SLUMBER.

RRRRRRRR

BUT THE SOUND COULD NOT
COVER THE FOUL STENCH OF
DEAD FLESH ON THE DIRTY
SHELVES OF HIS CAVE.

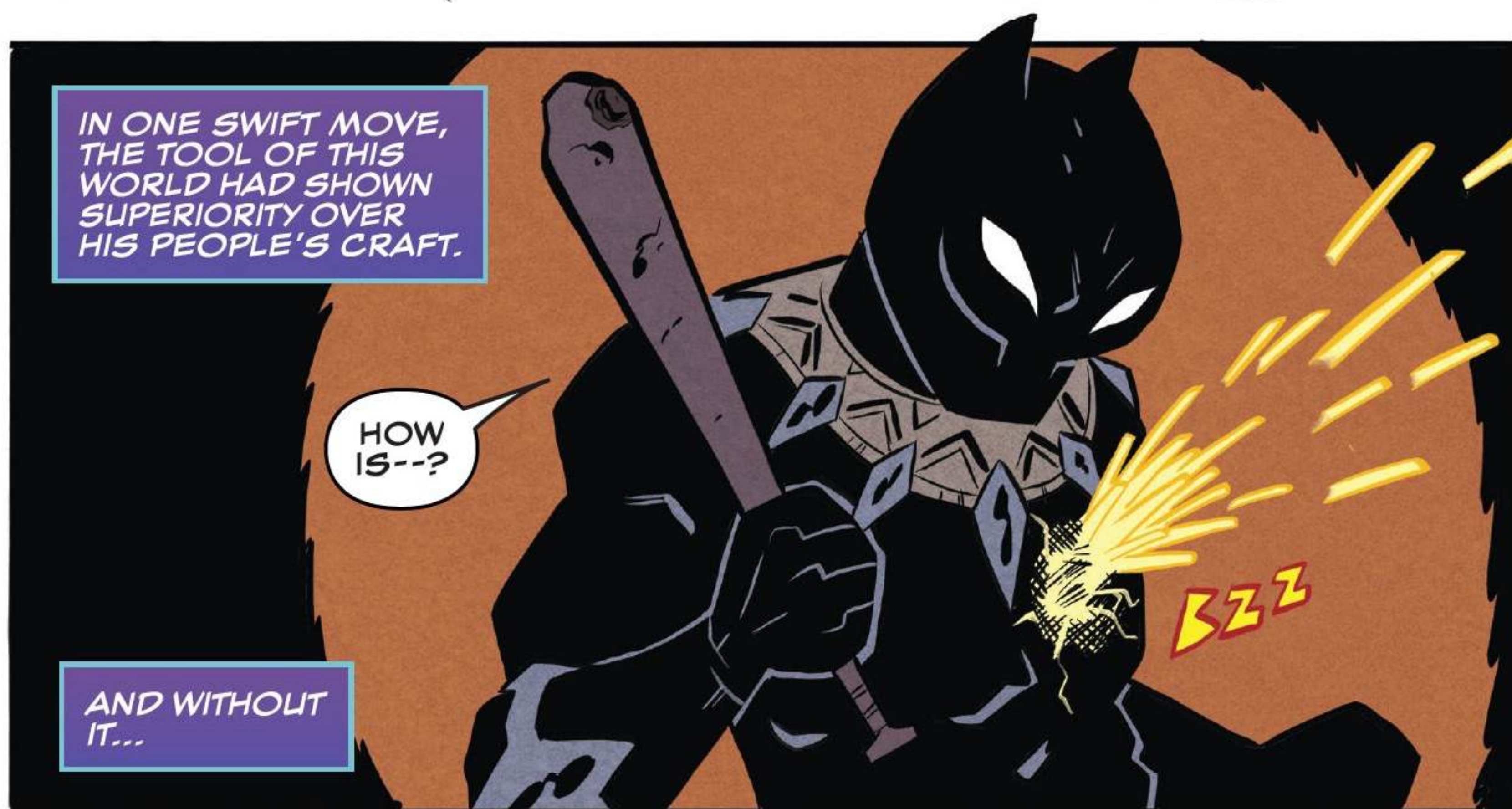
A THOUSAND YEARS OF BOUNTY
ACQUIRED OFF THE BODIES OF
HIS VICTIMS. STILL ECHOING THE
SCREAMS OF THEIR OWNERS.

AND ONE ITEM
CALLING LOUDER.

THE PANTHER WAS
RELIEVED. THIS
WAS EASY.

OH CRAP.

Swish



WHO?!



HE EVADED THAT MOVE JUST IN TIME, ALERTED BY THE MONSTER'S SMELL.

RAGE. FEAR. NO MATTER THE WORLD OR THE SPECIES, THEY ALL EMIT THE SAME SMELL WHEN THEY FEEL ENDANGERED.

THE PANTHER HAD TO BE QUICK, BUT HE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TROUBLE AVOIDING THE CLUMSY AND CONFUSED MOVES OF THE BLIND GIANT...

...AT FIRST.

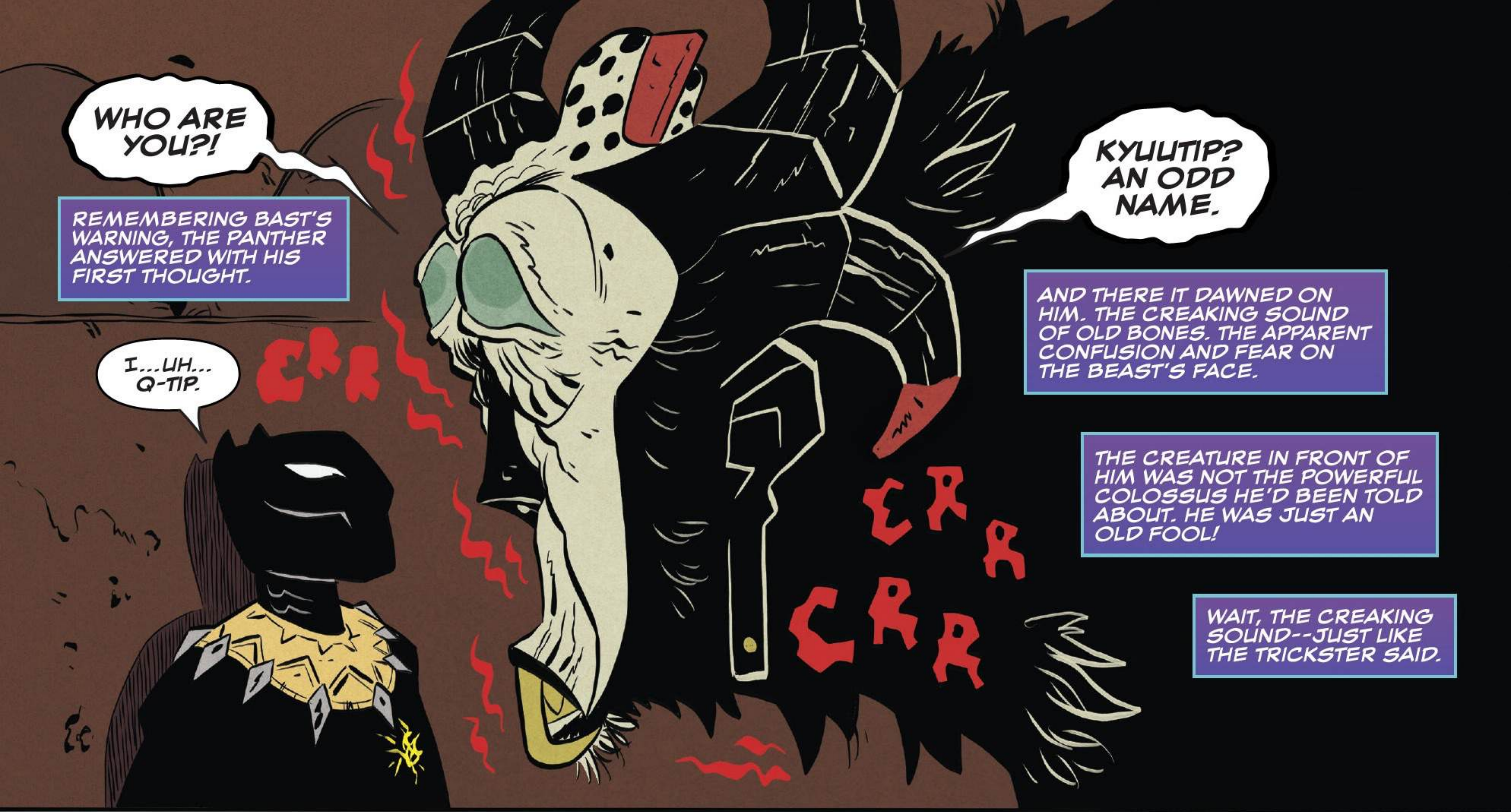
IT'S IN THE PANTHER'S NATURE TO BITE BACK, BUT NOT THIS TIME.

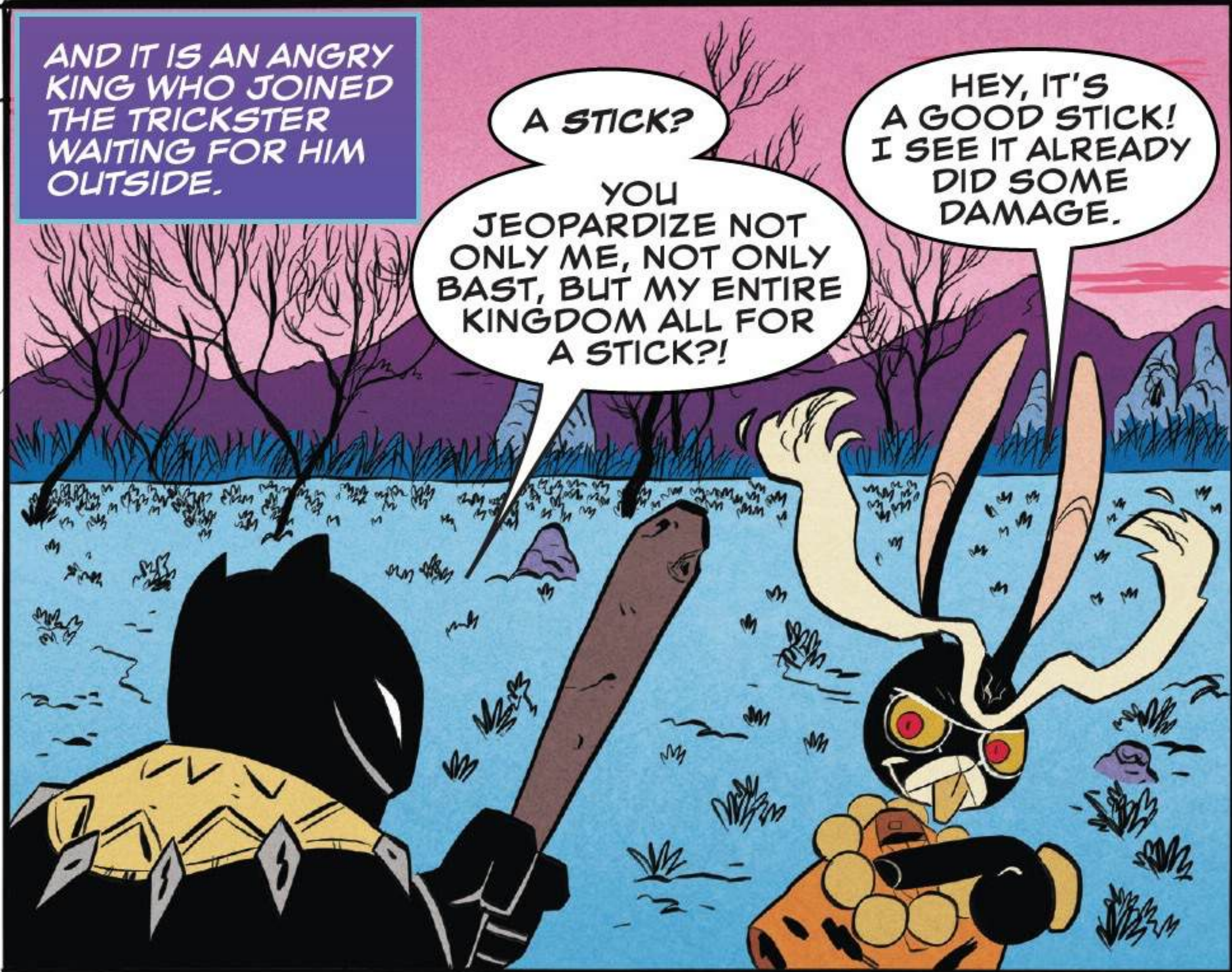
BECAUSE SOMETHING WAS WRONG. THE TRICKSTER SAID BARA WAS FORMIDABLE.

BUT RIGHT NOW...

...HE WAS JUST SCARED.







AND IT IS AN ANGRY KING WHO JOINED THE TRICKSTER WAITING FOR HIM OUTSIDE.

A STICK?

YOU JEOPARDIZE NOT ONLY ME, NOT ONLY BAST, BUT MY ENTIRE KINGDOM ALL FOR A STICK?!

HEY, IT'S A GOOD STICK! I SEE IT ALREADY DID SOME DAMAGE.



ABOUT THAT--HOW COULD A WOODEN STICK BREAK MY VIBRANIUM SUIT?



I DON'T KNOW, MY FRIEND. IT WAS ALSO FLOATING, DID YOU NOTICE?

THINGS HERE ARE JUST HOW THEY ARE, I SUGGEST NOT ASKING QUESTIONS.

OH, HI, MYRIAM.

DON'T TALK TO ME, LIAR.



I SEE YOU'RE POPULAR.

WELL, EVERYONE KNOWS ME HERE. WHY DO YOU THINK I NEEDED YOU TO STEAL THIS FOR ME, "KYUUTIP"?

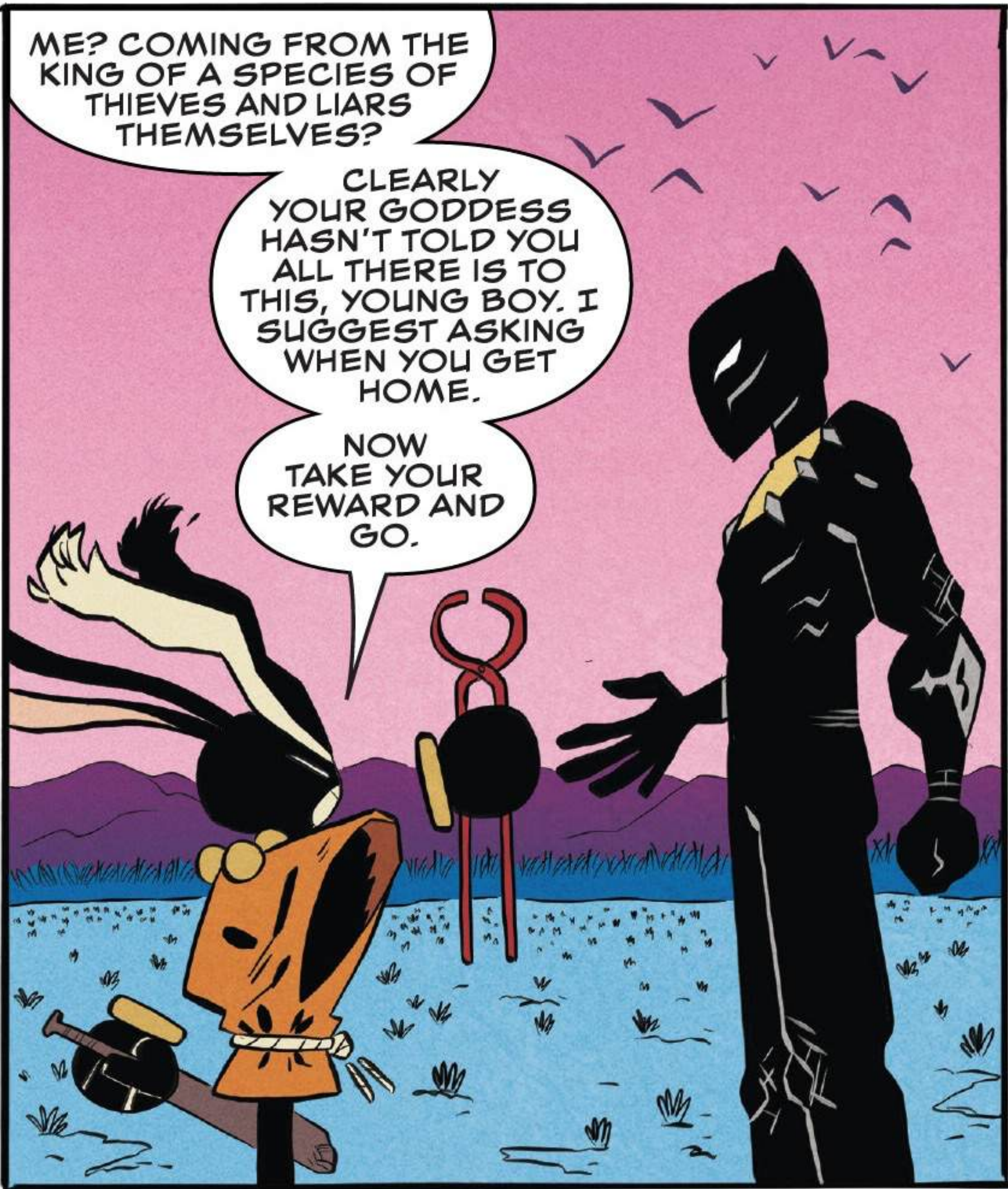


STEAL? YOU SAID HE STOLE IT FROM YOU!

GRR

I SAID THE STICK IS MINE TO POSSESS, I NEVER SAID HE STOLE IT FROM ME!

I COMMITTED A CRIME FOR YOU, YOU DISHONORABLE--



ME? COMING FROM THE KING OF A SPECIES OF THIEVES AND LIARS THEMSELVES?

CLEARLY YOUR GODDESS HASN'T TOLD YOU ALL THERE IS TO THIS, YOUNG BOY. I SUGGEST ASKING WHEN YOU GET HOME.

NOW TAKE YOUR REWARD AND GO.



FAREWELL THEN, TRICKSTER. I PRAY WE NEVER MEET AGAIN.

DON'T BE SO SURE, BROTHER. MANY PATHS LEAD HERE. AND ONCE YOU'VE VISITED, YOU RARELY STAY AWAY FOR LONG...

OUR STORY DOESN'T TELL IF THE PANTHER ASKED BAST WHAT THE TRICKSTER MEANT. BUT SINCE THAT DAY, HE WOULD OFTEN SAY THAT, THOUGH HE'D EXPECTED THE CROWN TO BE HEAVY, HE DID NOT EXPECT IT TO BE FROM THE WEIGHT OF LIES.

THE END?

LET ME TELL YOU
HOW THE WORLD
SEES WAKANDA:



THE WORLD SEES WAKANDA
LIKE IT'S A TECH-FORWARD,
AFRO-FUTURIST WONDERLAND.



FULL OF PEOPLE
AS SLICK AS THEY
ARE SMART.



AND PROTECTED
BY THE BADDEST
OF BADASSES.

YEAH. TO THE
WORLD WAKANDA
IS ALL THAT.



BUT LEMME TELL YOU
HOW I SEE WAKANDA.
HOW WE SEE WAKANDA.

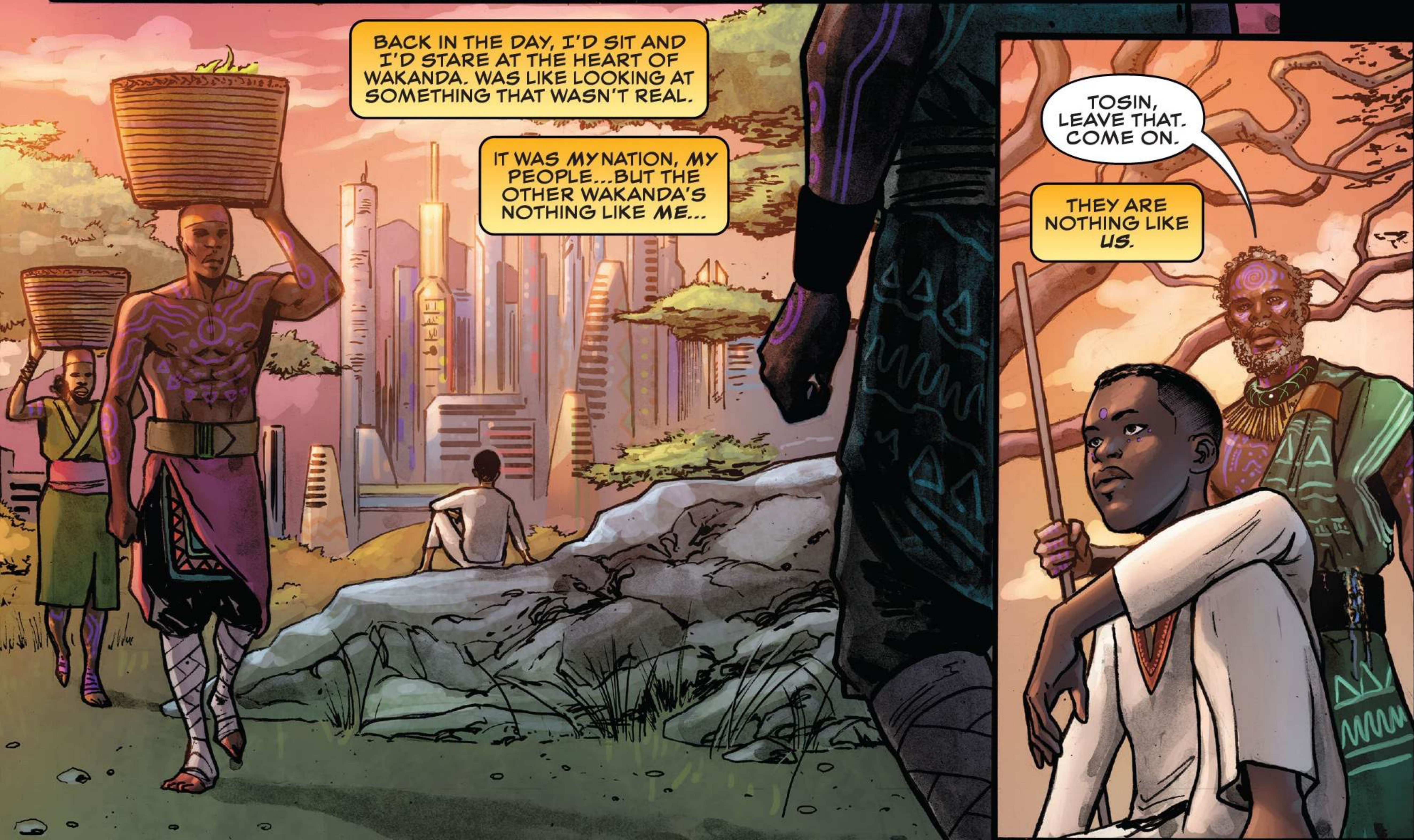


WAKANDA'S A SOCIETY
THAT'S TECHNOLOGICALLY
ADVANCED, YEAH, BUT IT'S
ALSO SOCIALLY ISOLATED.



THE PEOPLE ARE SLICK,
BUT THEY'VE STARTED
TO BELIEVE THAT BEING
SLICK IS BEING BETTER.

BETTER, AS IN:
BEING *SUPERIOR*.



BACK IN THE DAY, I'D SIT AND
I'D STARE AT THE HEART OF
WAKANDA. WAS LIKE LOOKING AT
SOMETHING THAT WASN'T REAL.

IT WAS MYNATION, MY
PEOPLE...BUT THE
OTHER WAKANDA'S
NOTHING LIKE ME...

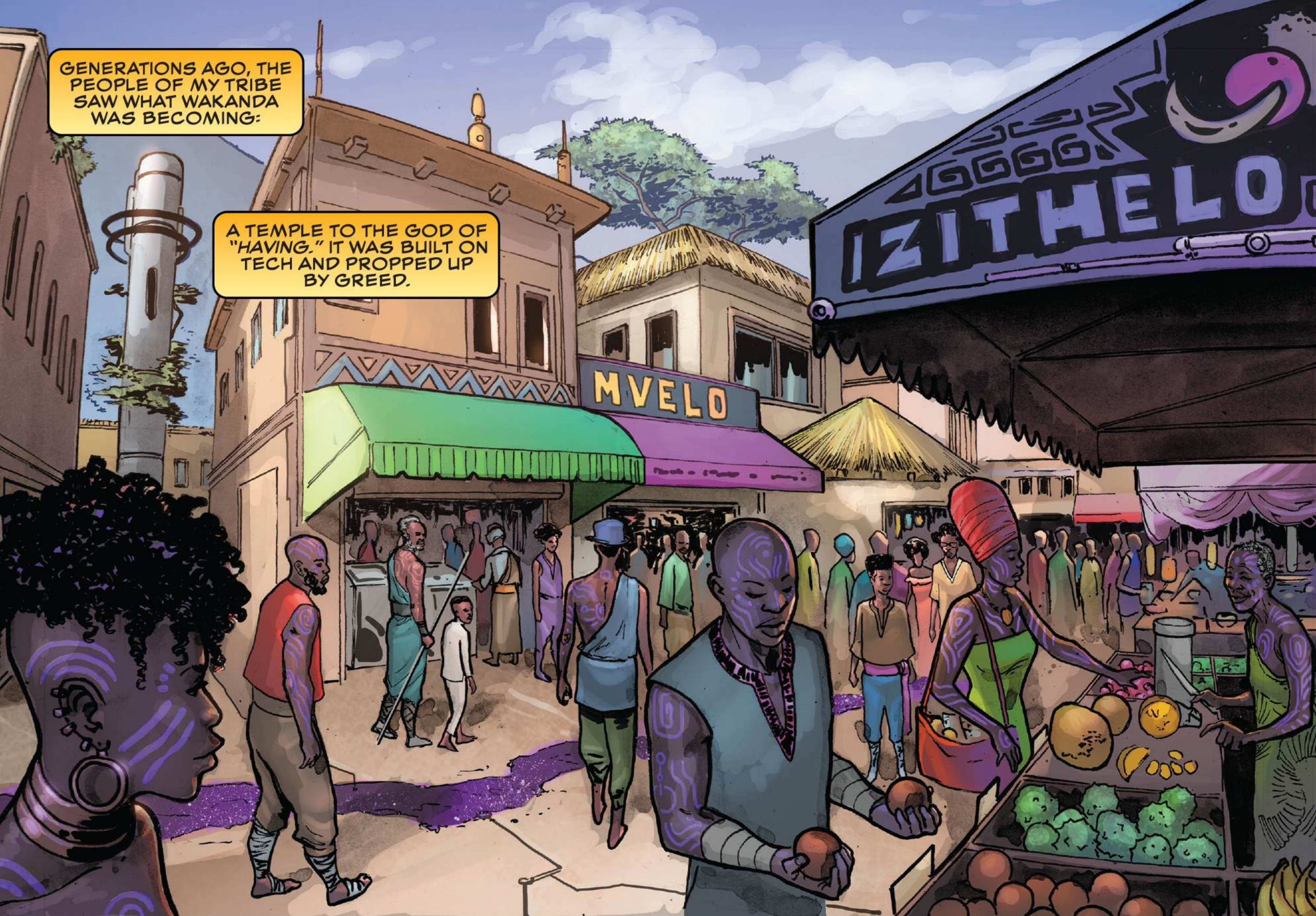


TOSIN,
LEAVE THAT.
COME ON.

THEY ARE
NOTHING LIKE
US.

GENERATIONS AGO, THE
PEOPLE OF MY TRIBE
SAW WHAT WAKANDA
WAS BECOMING:

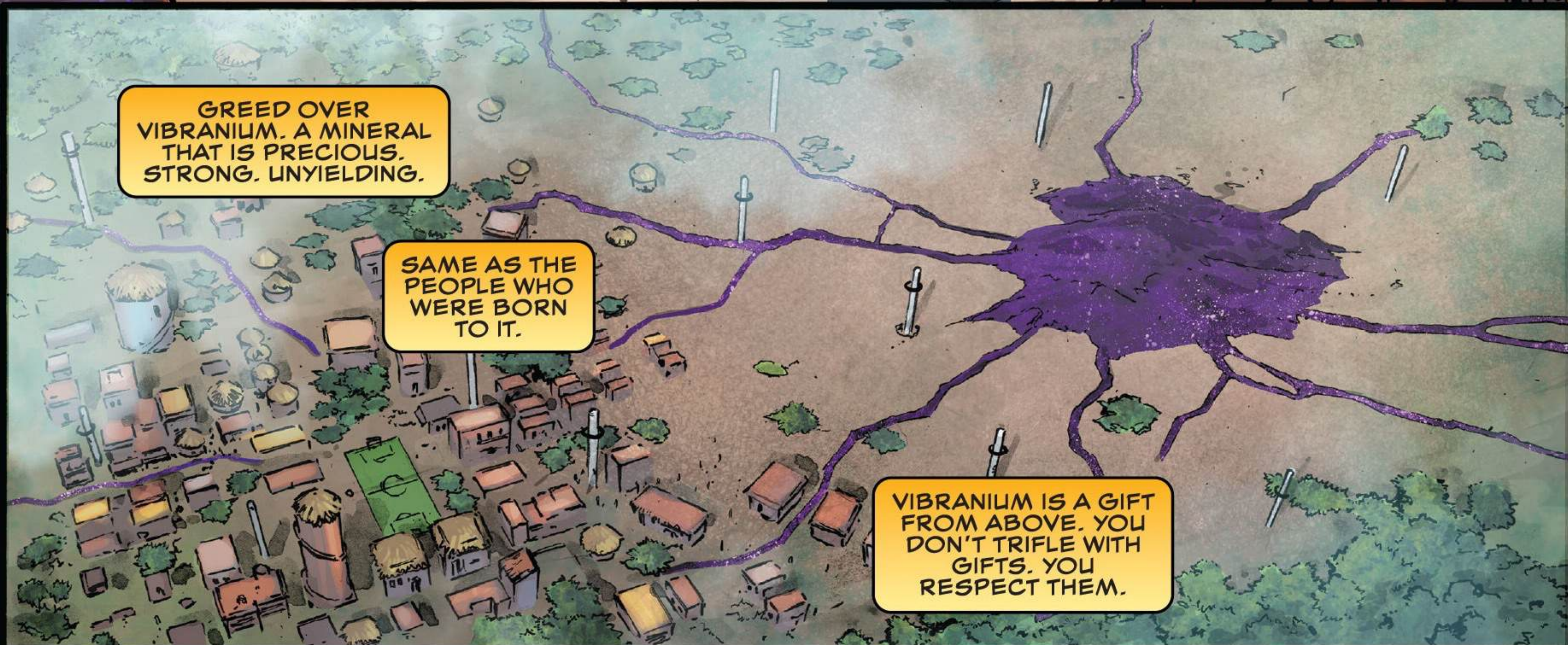
A TEMPLE TO THE GOD OF
"HAVING." IT WAS BUILT ON
TECH AND PROPPED UP
BY GREED.



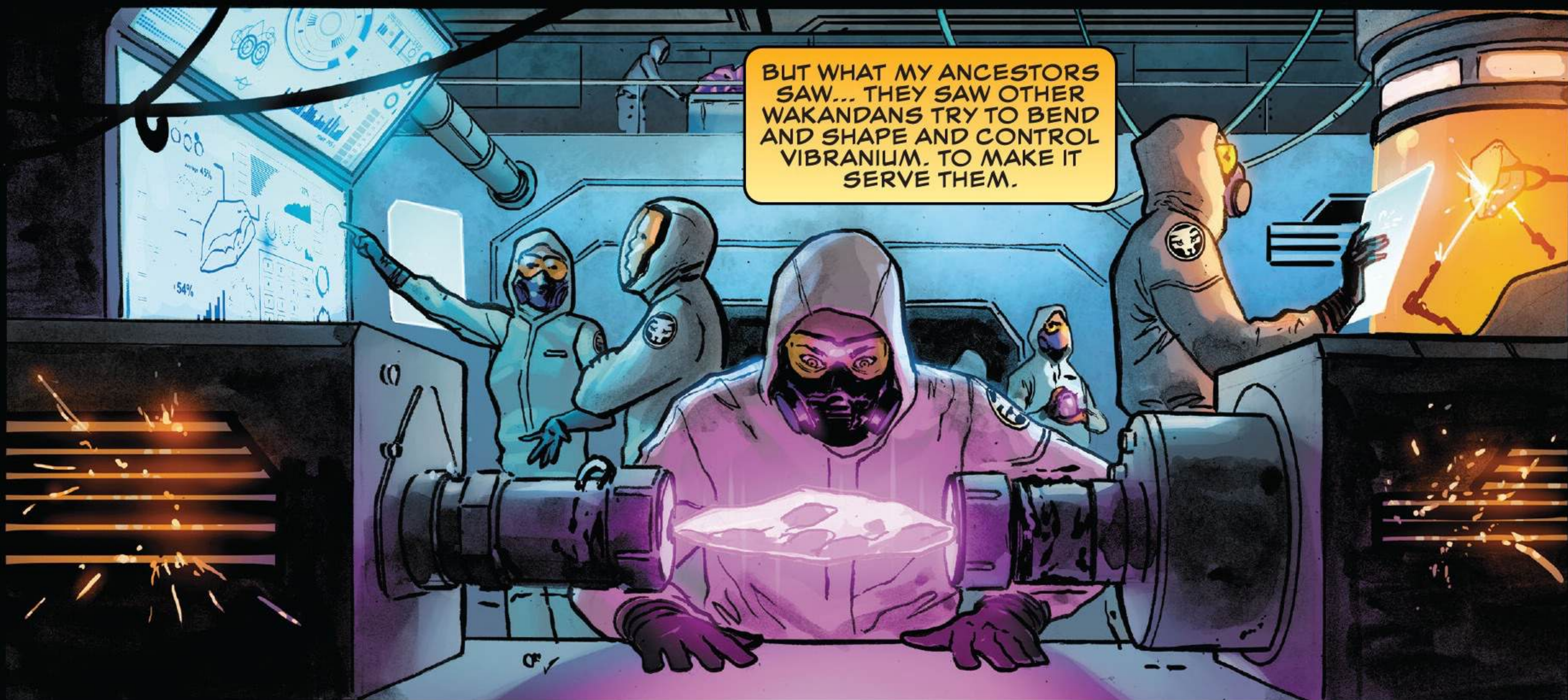
GREED OVER
VIBRANIUM. A MINERAL
THAT IS PRECIOUS.
STRONG. UNYIELDING.

SAME AS THE
PEOPLE WHO
WERE BORN
TO IT.

VIBRANIUM IS A GIFT
FROM ABOVE. YOU
DON'T TRIFLE WITH
GIFTS. YOU
RESPECT THEM.



BUT WHAT MY ANCESTORS
SAW... THEY SAW OTHER
WAKANDANS TRY TO BEND
AND SHAPE AND CONTROL
VIBRANIUM. TO MAKE IT
SERVE THEM.





THEY SAW MEN LIKE T'CHALLA:
A "KING" WHO THOUGHT HE
COULD USE VIBRANIUM TO
RULE WAKANDA. MEN LIKE
KILLMONGER WHO THOUGHT
HE COULD USE VIBRANIUM TO
IMPOSE WAKANDA'S WILL ON
THE WORLD.

AND REAL REGULAR THEY
WENT AT IT. BOTH ACTING
LIKE THEY WERE RIGHT,
AND THE OTHER WAS
WRONG.

TO MY ANCESTORS,
THEY WERE BOTH
MISGUIDED. IF
NOT JUST EVIL.



SO, WAY BEFORE MY TIME,
MY PREDECESSORS
BROKE FROM WAKANDA
PROPER. THEY LEFT THE
HEART OF THE NATION...

...AND RESETTLED IN ONE OF
THE **MUTE ZONES**: A PLACE
CUT OFF FROM THE
SELF-PERPETUATING, CLOSED
DIGITAL LOOP OF WANTING,
AND CHASING THE POWER TO
GET WHAT YOU WANT.



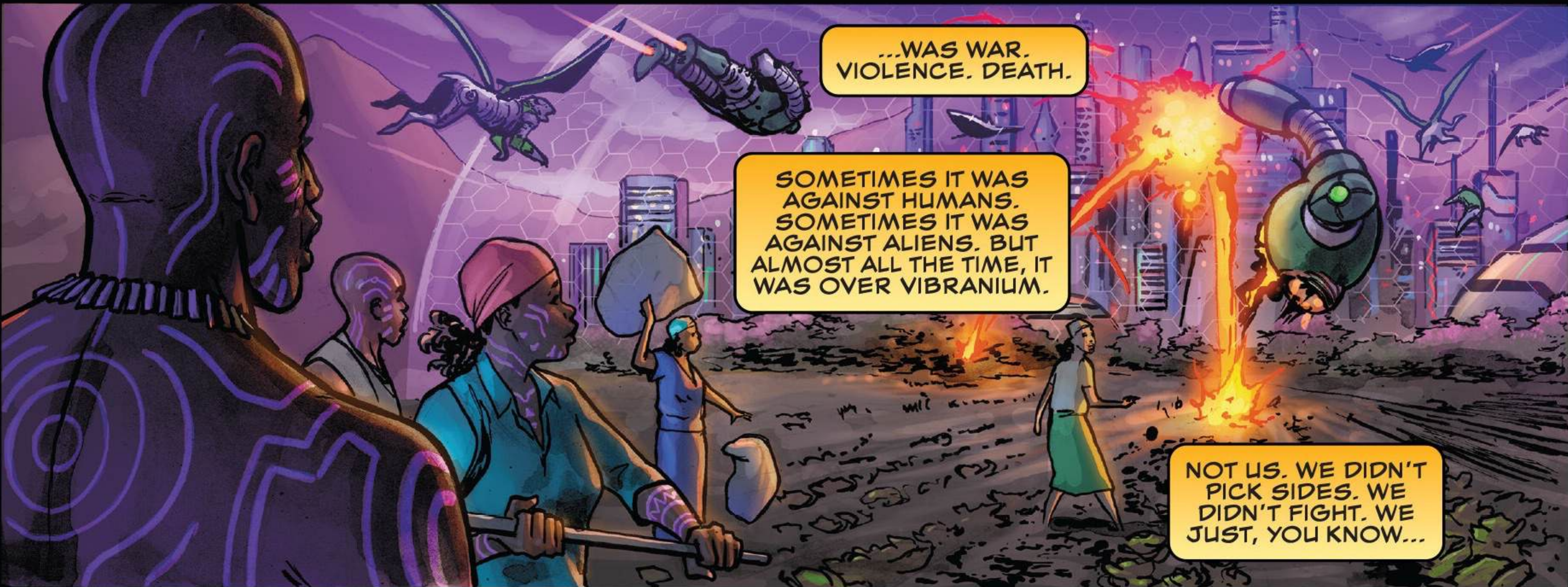
FOR ME, FOR US,
GROWING UP...LIFE
WAS REAL SIMPLE,
AND IT WAS SO
SIMPLY GOOD.

WE RAN, WE
PLAYED...WE
JUST LIVED.



WE DIDN'T LIVE
OFF THE LAND. WE
LIVED WITH IT.

BUT FOR THE OTHER
WAKANDA, ALL THERE
WAS...



...WAS WAR.
VIOLENCE. DEATH.

SOMETIMES IT WAS
AGAINST HUMANS.
SOMETIMES IT WAS
AGAINST ALIENS. BUT
ALMOST ALL THE TIME, IT
WAS OVER VIBRANIUM.

NOT US. WE DIDN'T
PICK SIDES. WE
DIDN'T FIGHT. WE
JUST, YOU KNOW...

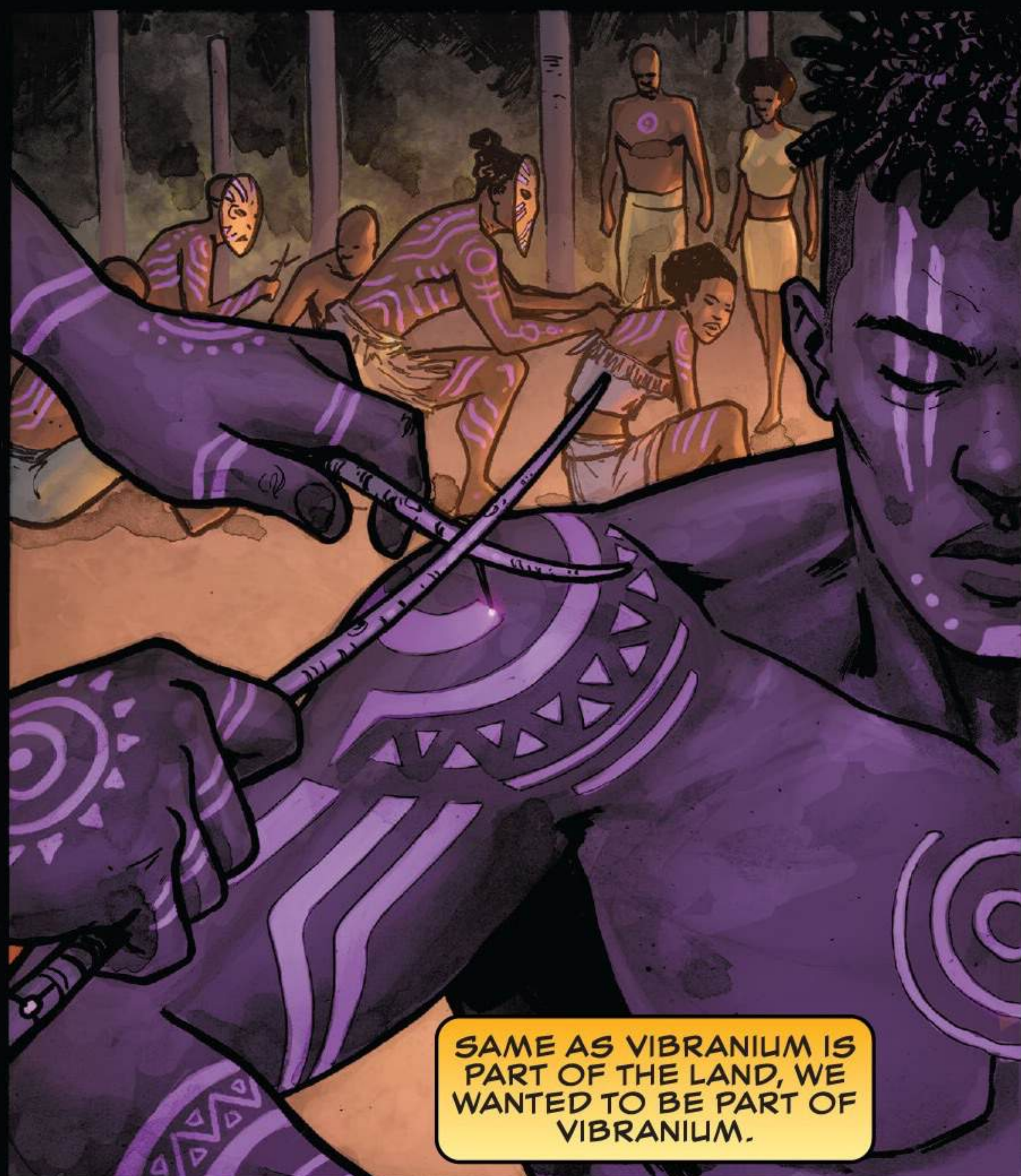


WE
LIVED.

AND VIBRANIUM--
WE DIDN'T TRY TO
MASTER IT...



...WE FOUND NATURAL
WAYS TO REFINES ITS
ESSENCE.



SAME AS VIBRANIUM IS
PART OF THE LAND, WE
WANTED TO BE PART OF
VIBRANIUM.



SAME AS IT FLOWED
AROUND US, WE
WANTED TO FLOW
WITH IT.



AND FOR SOME...
FOR SOME, THEY
DIDN'T JUST FLOW
WITH VIBRANIUM...



FOR SOME,
VIBRANIUM
FLOWED
WITH THEM.



VIBRANIUM FLOWED
THROUGH THEM.

OUR PEOPLE WEREN'T
STUPID. WE KNEW ONE
DAY WAR WAS GONNA
COME FOR US.

AND WHEN IT DID, THEY
WANTED TO BE ABLE
TO PROTECT WAKANDA.



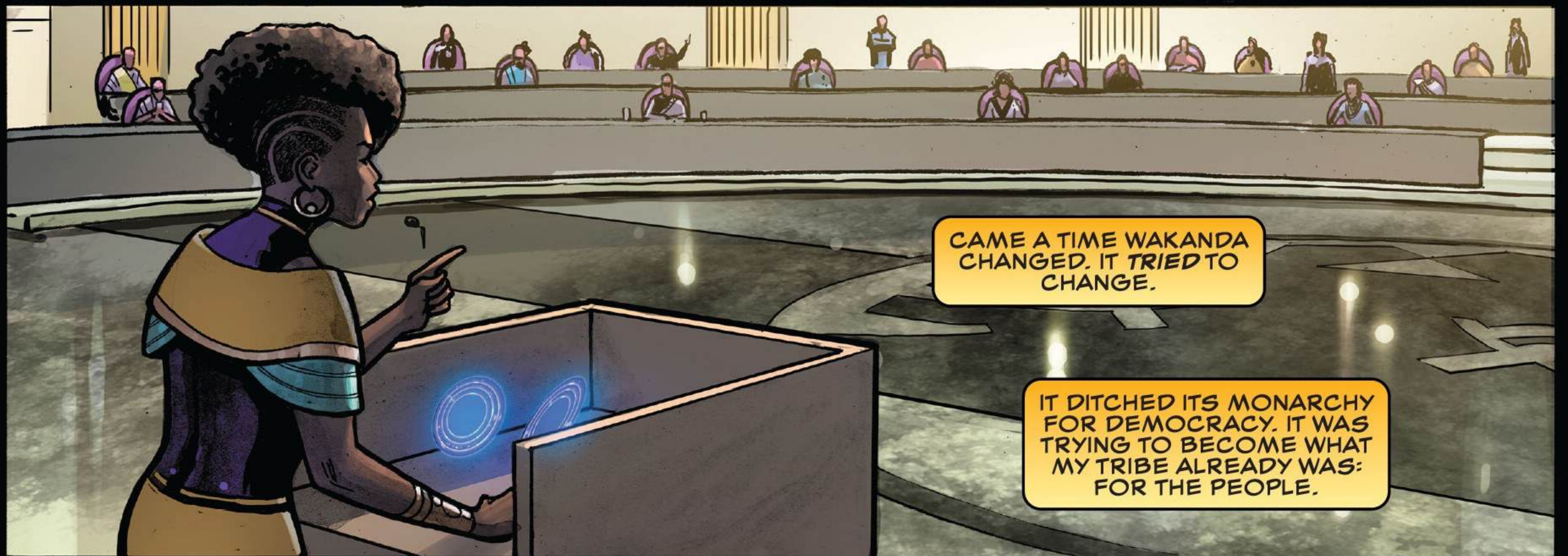
I WANTED TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT WAKANDA.

SO FROM WHEN I WAS A KID...



...RIGHT UP UNTIL I WAS A YOUNG MAN, THAT WAS MY PURPOSE: TO LEARN TO...FLOW.

TO LEARN, IF IT CAME TO IT, HOW TO DEFEND OUR PEOPLE.



CAME A TIME WAKANDA CHANGED. IT TRIED TO CHANGE.

IT DITCHED ITS MONARCHY FOR DEMOCRACY. IT WAS TRYING TO BECOME WHAT MY TRIBE ALREADY WAS: FOR THE PEOPLE.



THE ELDERS OF MY TRIBE...THEY WEREN'T BUYING ANY OF THAT.

THEY THOUGHT WAKANDA, THE *OTHER* WAKANDA, IT COULDN'T CHANGE. AND IT COULDN'T BE REDEEMED.

MAYBE. MAYBE NOT.



BUT I WAS RAISED TO BE INQUISITIVE.

I NEEDED TO SEE FOR MYSELF. I NEEDED TO WITNESS DEMOCRACY IN ACTION.

I WENT TO THEIR NEW PARLIAMENT. BUT WHAT I SAW... SAME AS ALWAYS.



NOTHING BUT POWERFUL MEN
ARGUING ABOUT HOW ALL
THEIR POWER MEANT THEY
KNEW BEST FOR WAKANDA.

AND NOT
LONG AFTER...



WAR.
AGAIN.

VIOLENCE AND
DEATH, AGAIN.



WAKANDA, YOUR TIME HAS
COME. OUR NATION BELONGS
TO THE PEOPLE. THE PEOPLE
MUST PROTECT IT.

FOLASADE, THE PRIME
MINISTER--SHE BEGGED
FOR HELP...



I'M ASKING
YOU TO RISE UP,
AND DEFEND
YOUR HOME.

...BUT MOST
OF OUR TRIBE
DIDN'T CARE.



WHY JOIN THE FIGHT? NO MATTER
THE OUTCOME, WAKANDA--THEIR
WAKANDA--WOULD BE THE
SAME AS EVER:

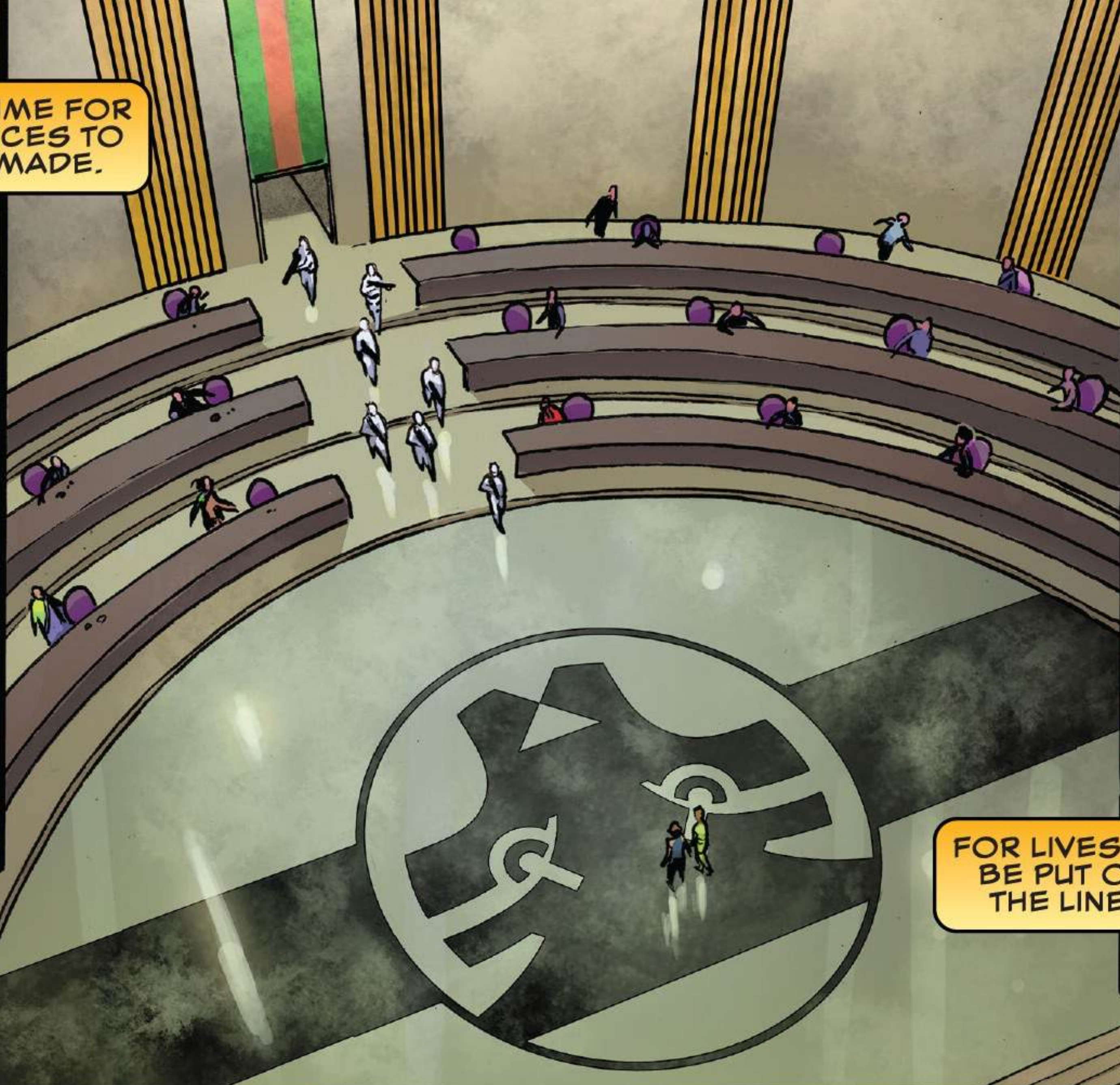
A SOULLESS
CONGLOMERATE
OF GREED AND
POWER.



BUT THIS ISN'T JUST THEIR
WAKANDA. THIS IS OUR
WAKANDA TOO. OUR
LAND. OUR HOME.

AND IT'S TIME FOR
THIS NEW WAKANDA
TO RISE.

IT'S TIME FOR CHOICES TO BE MADE.



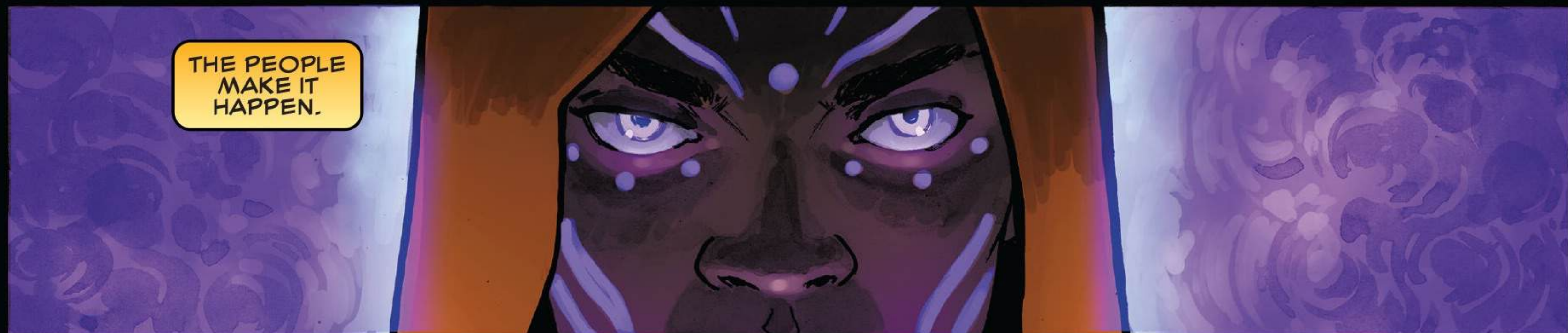
FOR LIVES TO BE PUT ON THE LINE.



REVOLUTION'S NOT SOMETHING THAT JUST HAPPENS...



THE PEOPLE MAKE IT HAPPEN.



SURRENDER THE PRIME MINISTER.

I WILL DIE FOR FOLASADE.



OKAY.



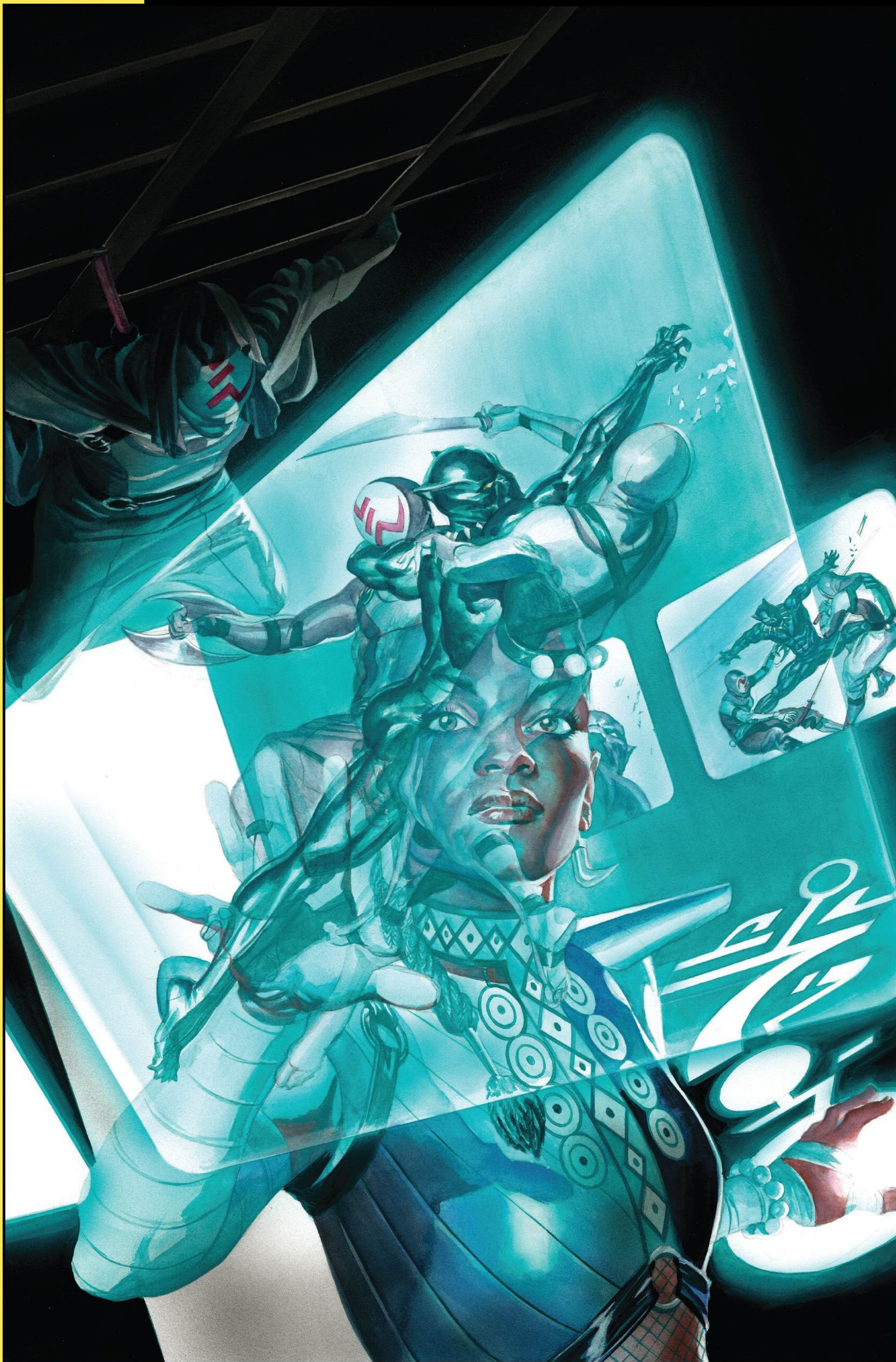
UHHH!

WHO THE
#\$%& ARE
YOU?!

I AM
TOSIN.

AND
I FIGHT
FOR THE
ONE, TRUE
WAKANDA.

THE BEGINNING...



PLANET ARAKKO.



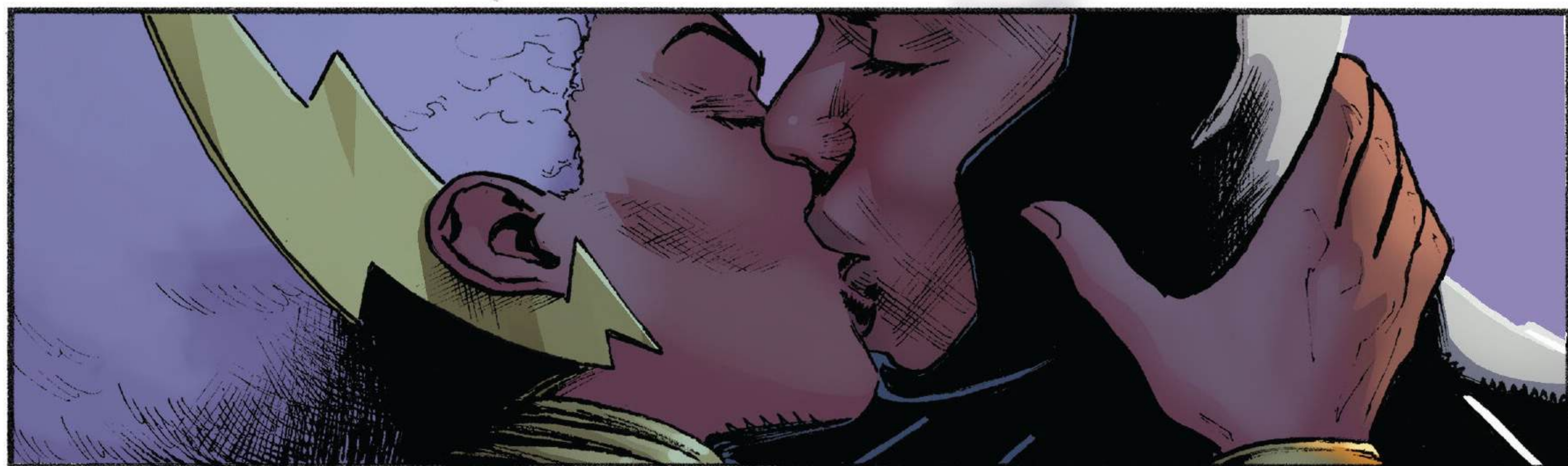
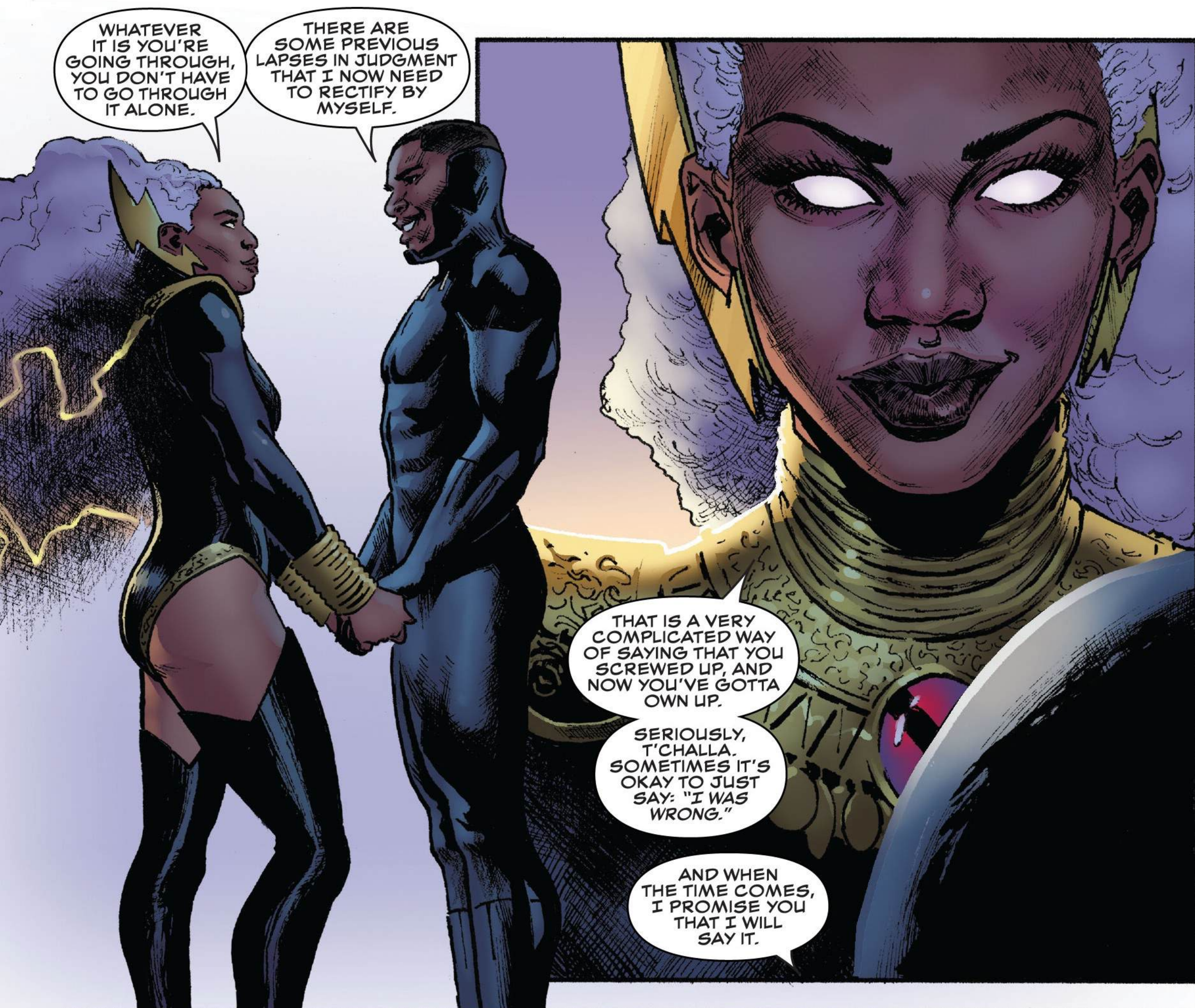
YOU
DON'T HAVE
TO LEAVE,
T'CHALLA.

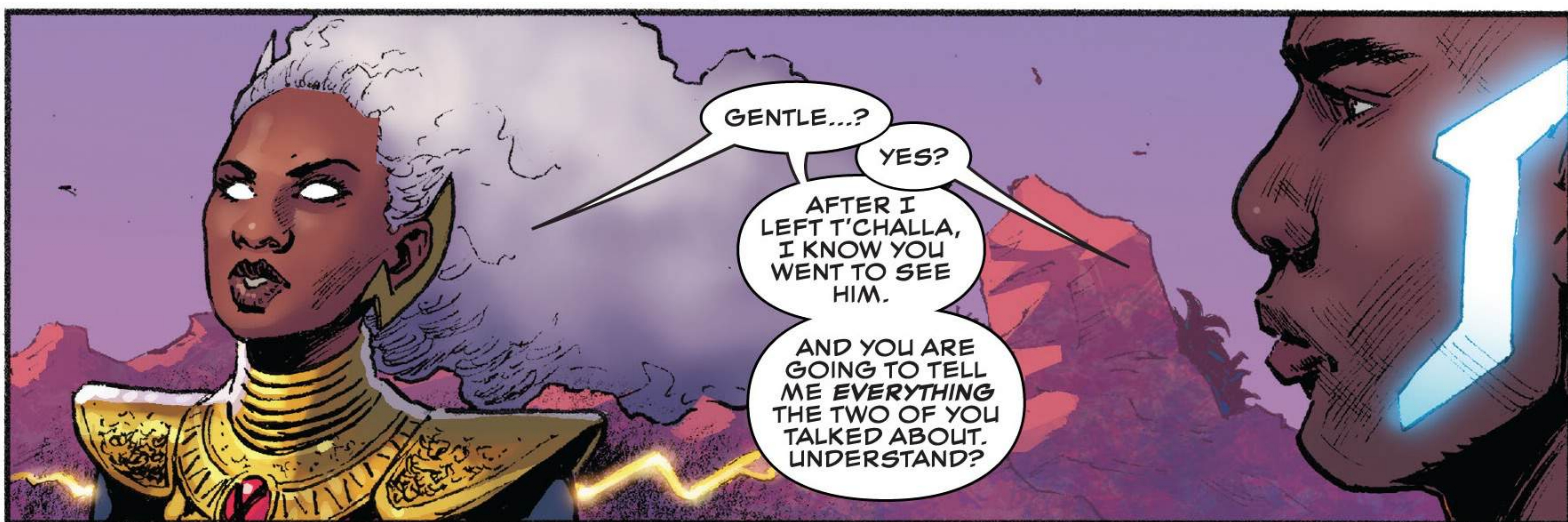
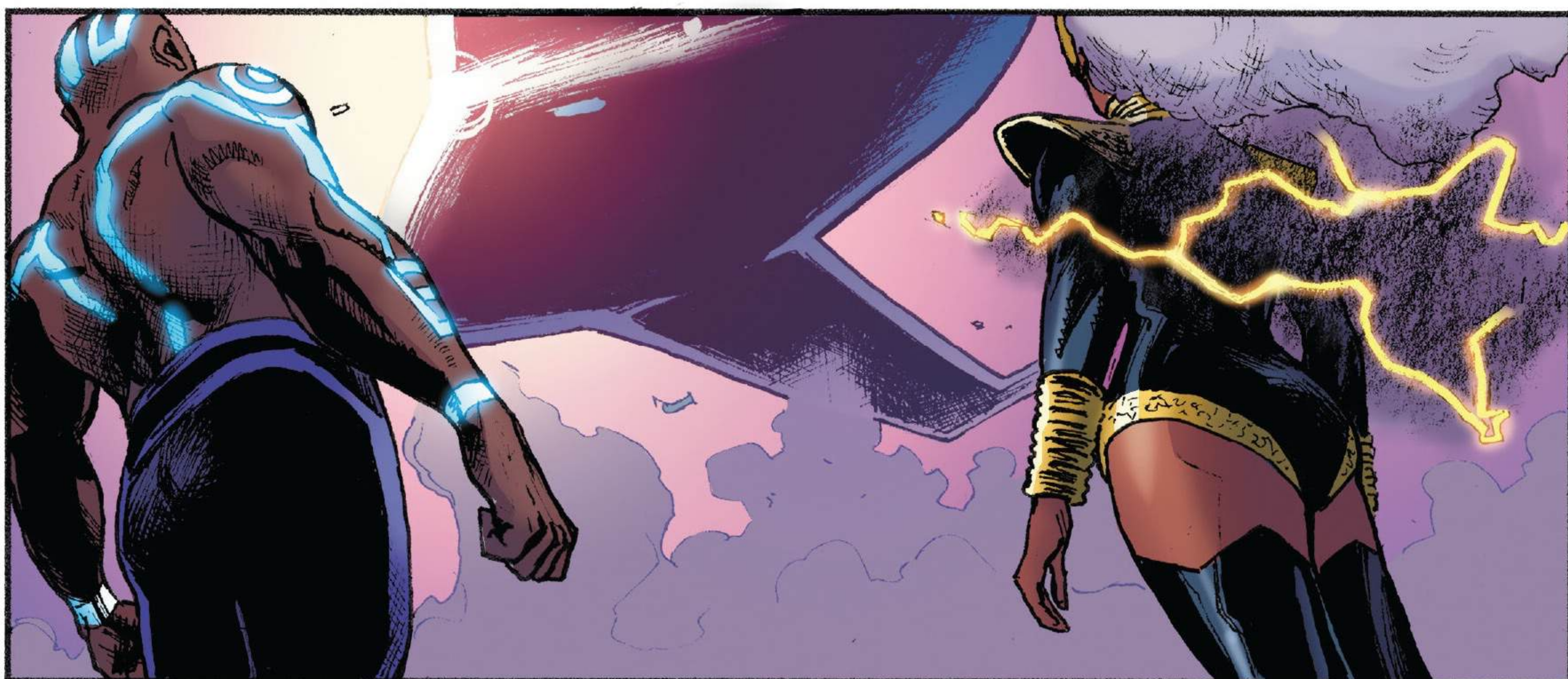
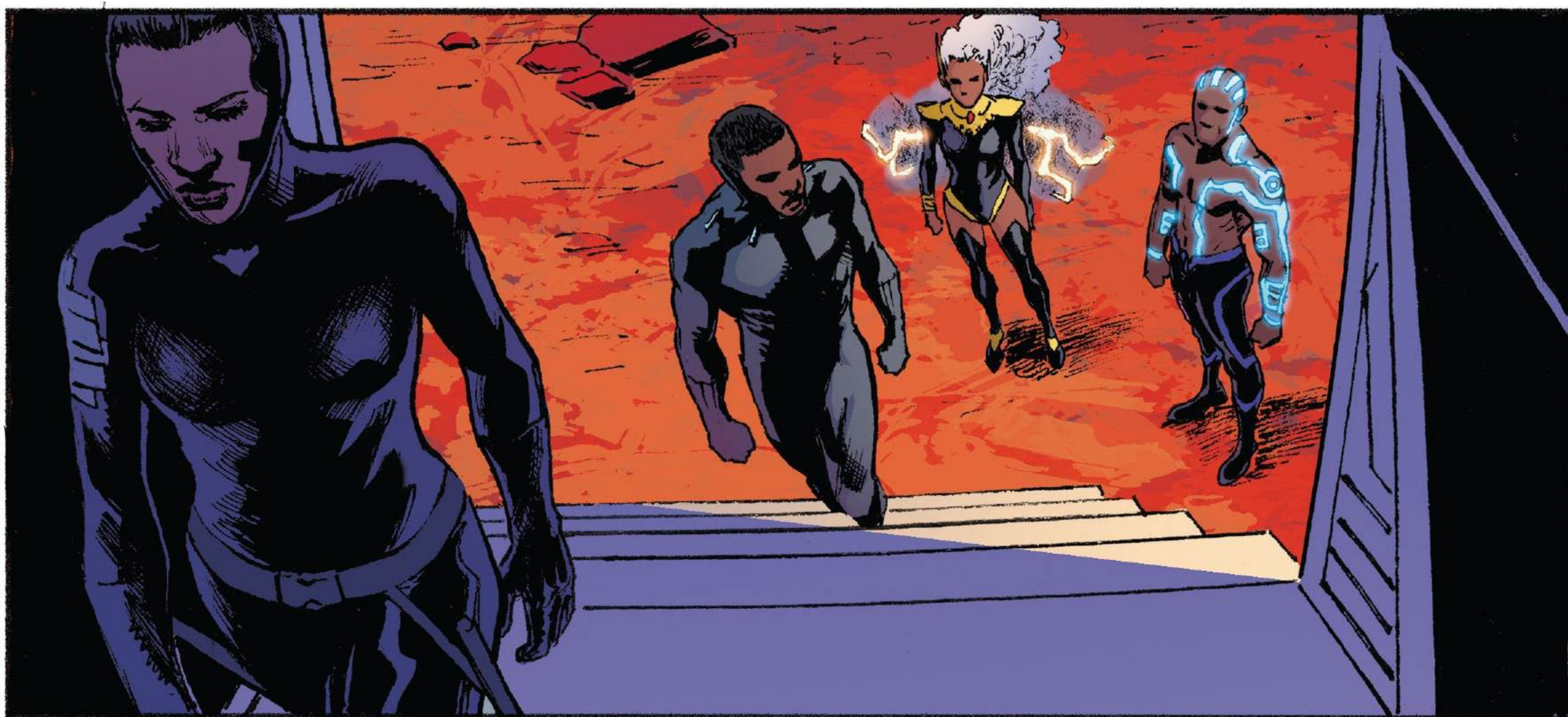


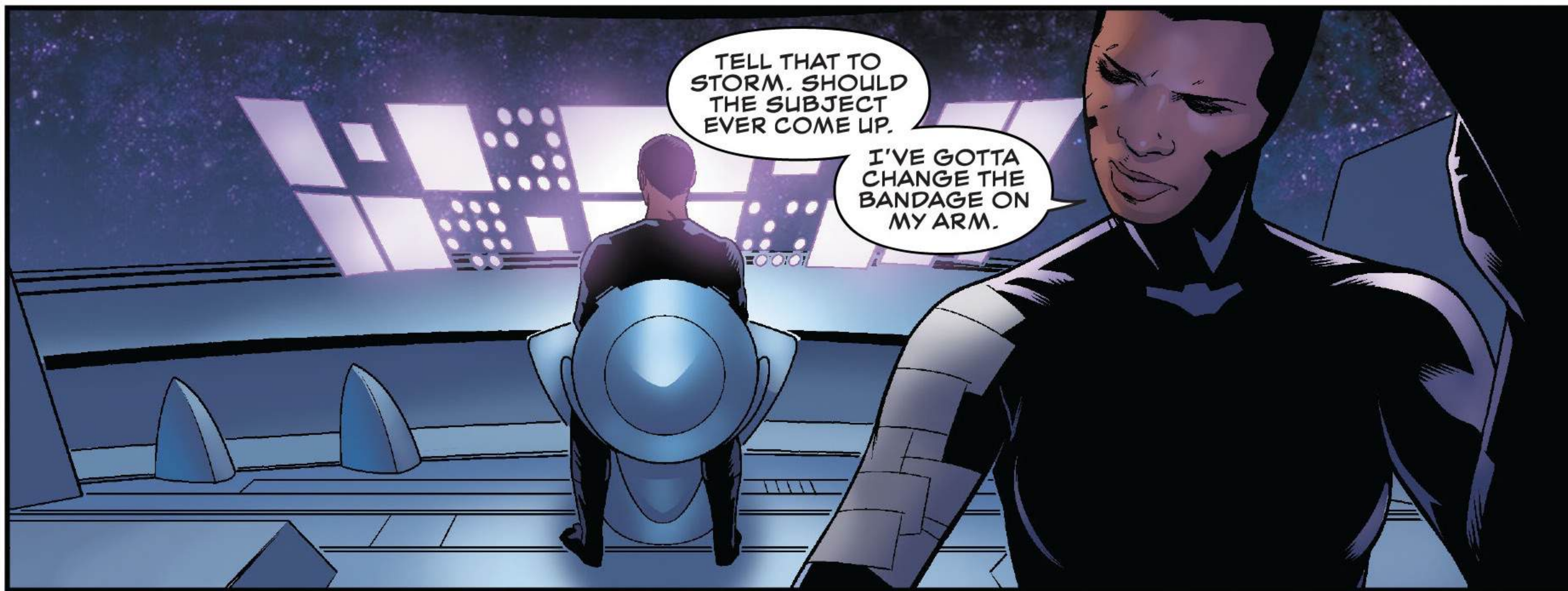
BUT I
CAN'T STAY,
ORORO,
SO...

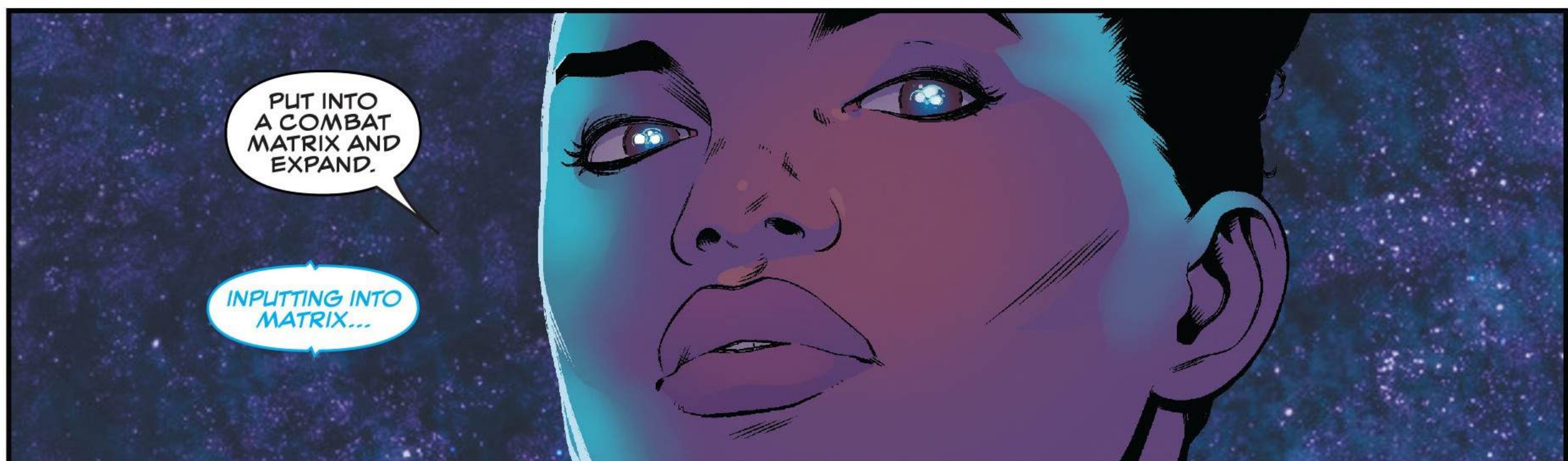
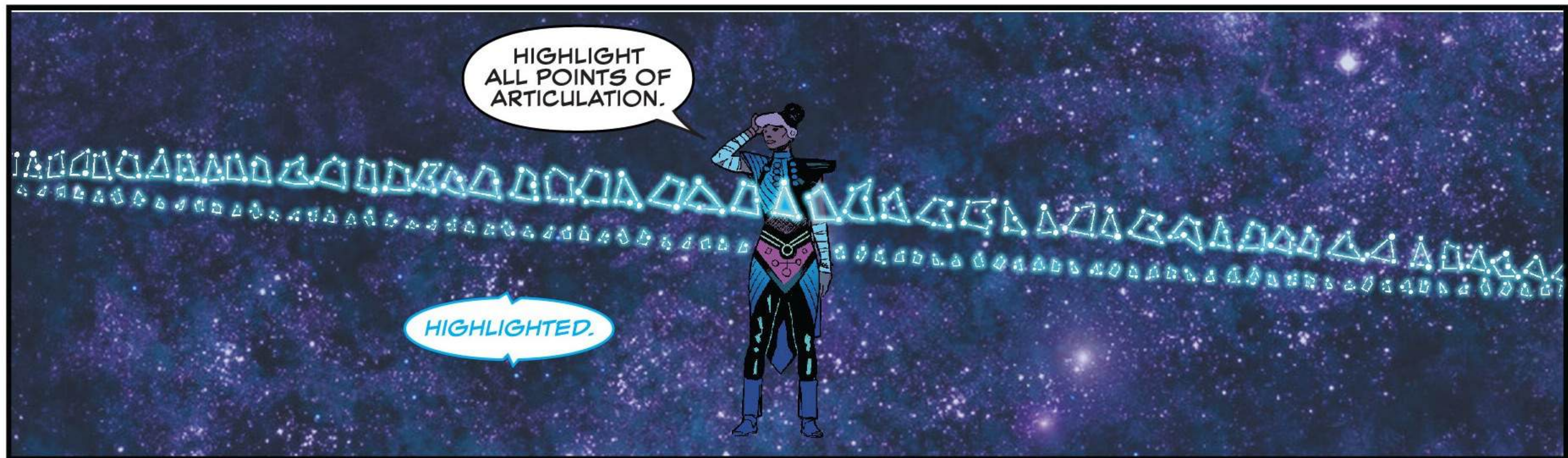
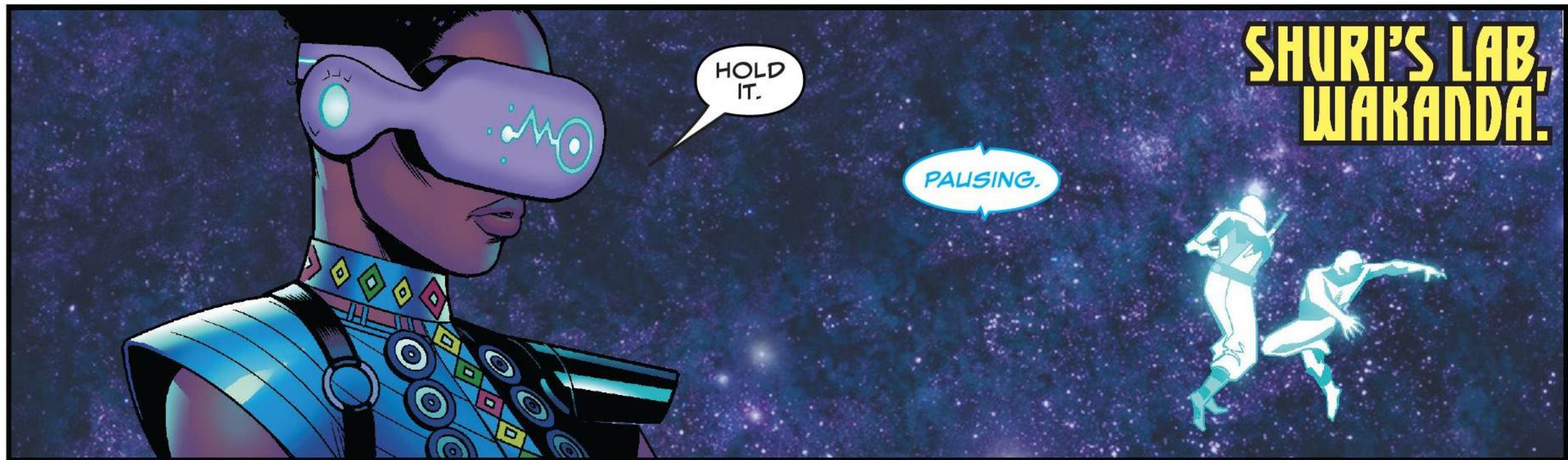
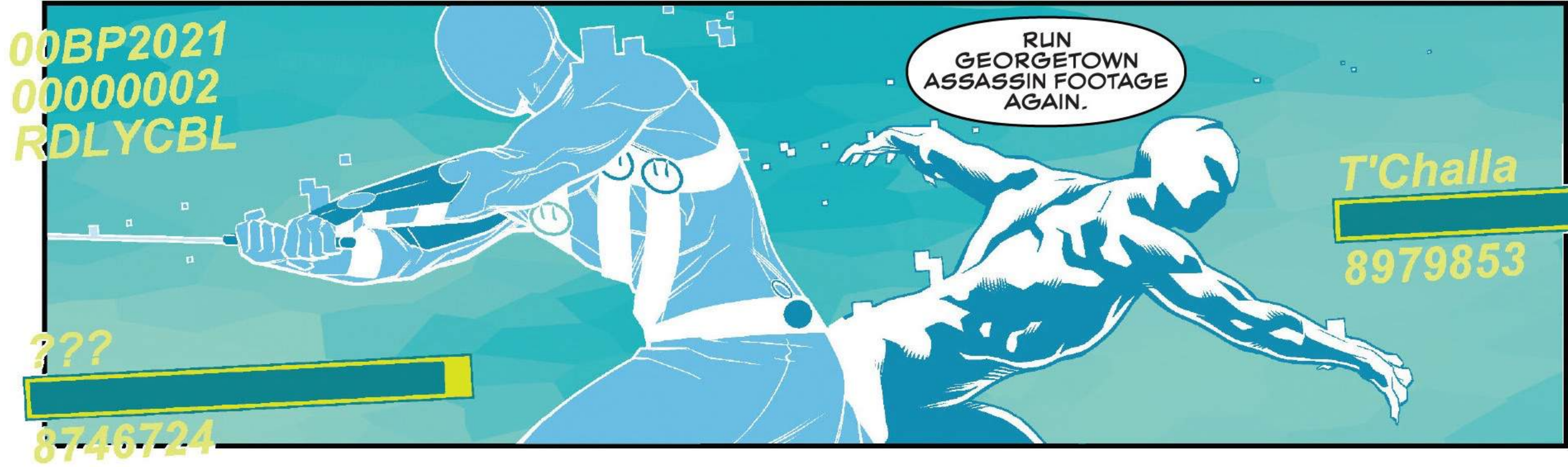


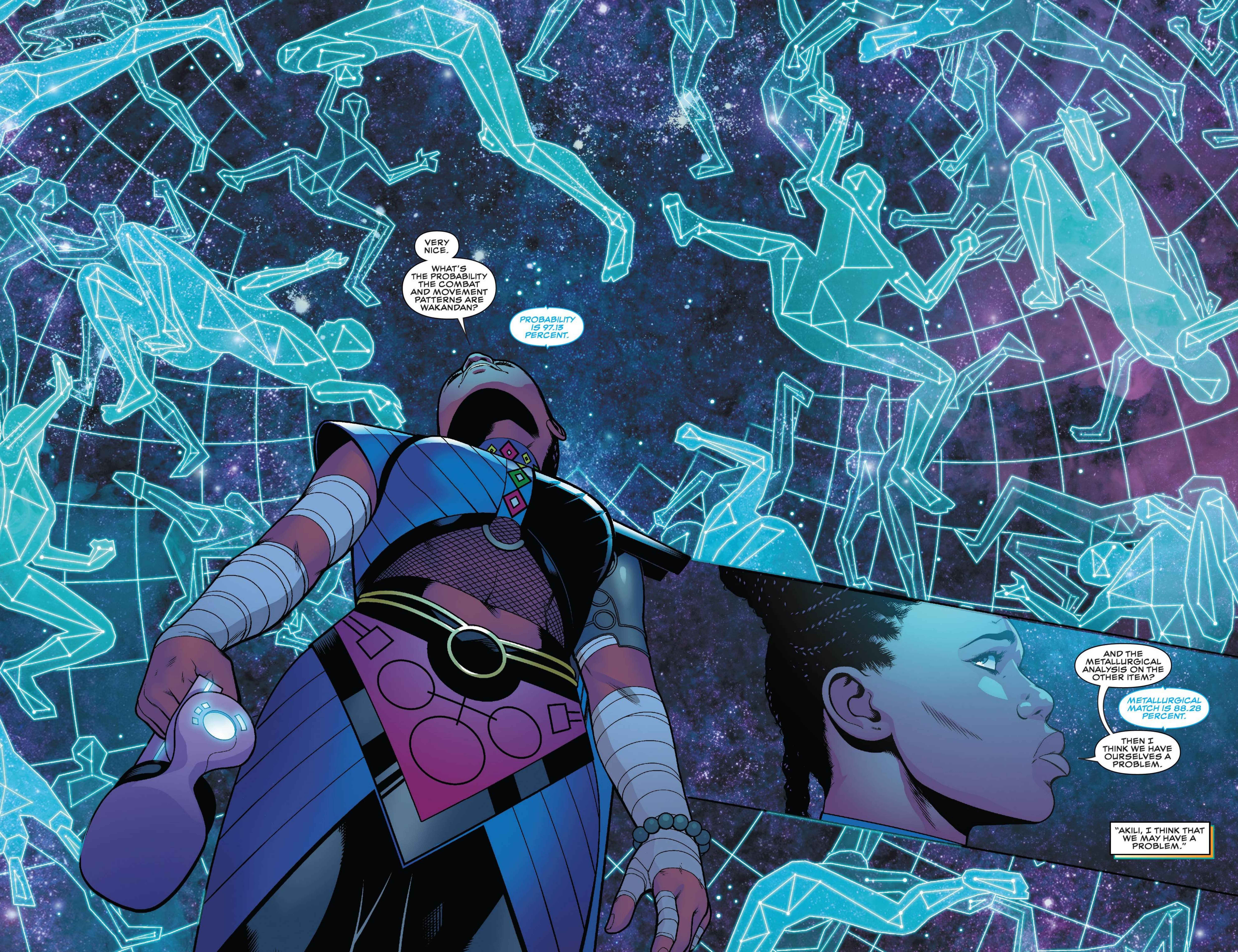
...UNFORTUNATELY,
IT'S THE SAME
THING.











VERY NICE.
WHAT'S THE PROBABILITY THE COMBAT AND MOVEMENT PATTERNS ARE WAKANDAN?

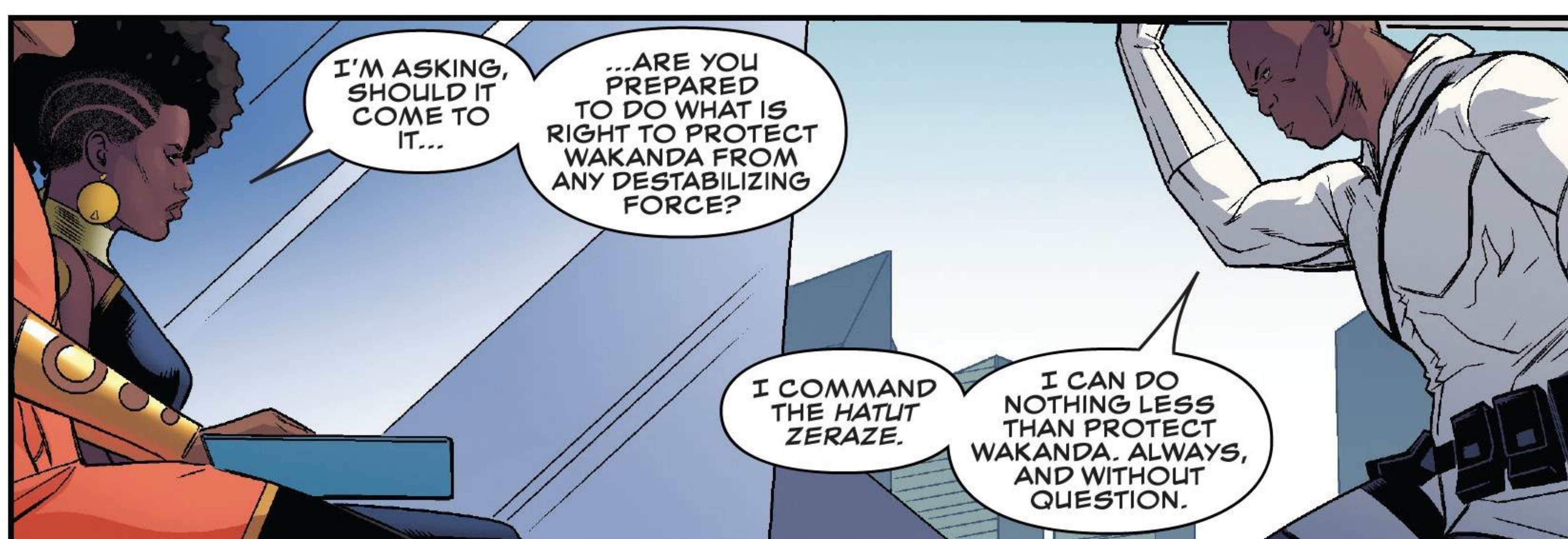
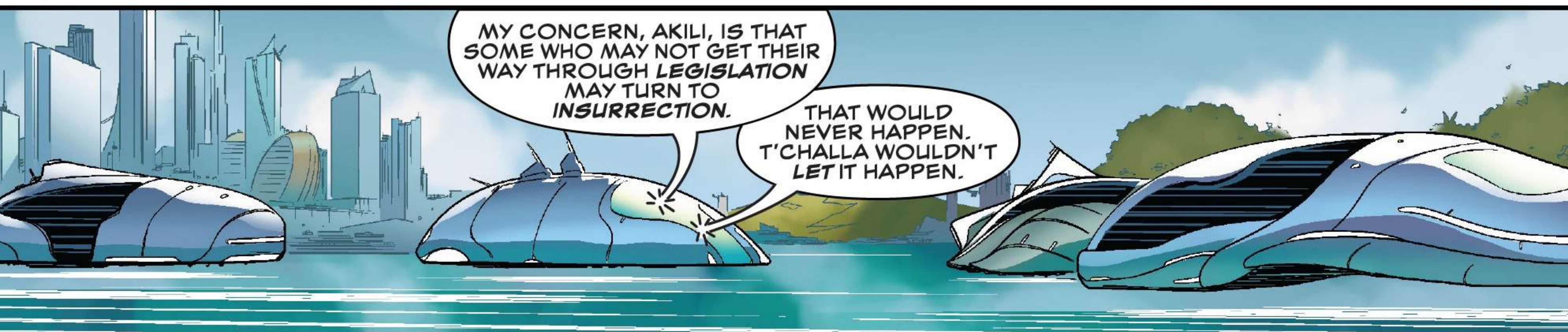
PROBABILITY IS 97.13 PERCENT.

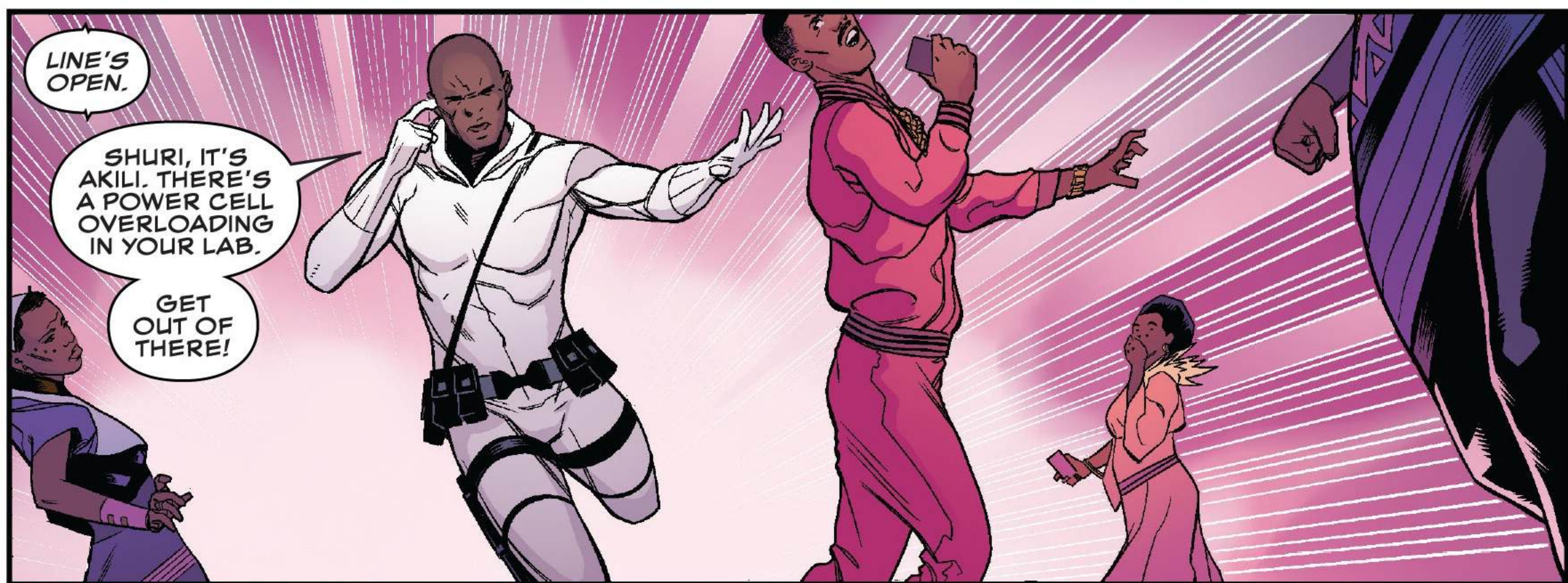
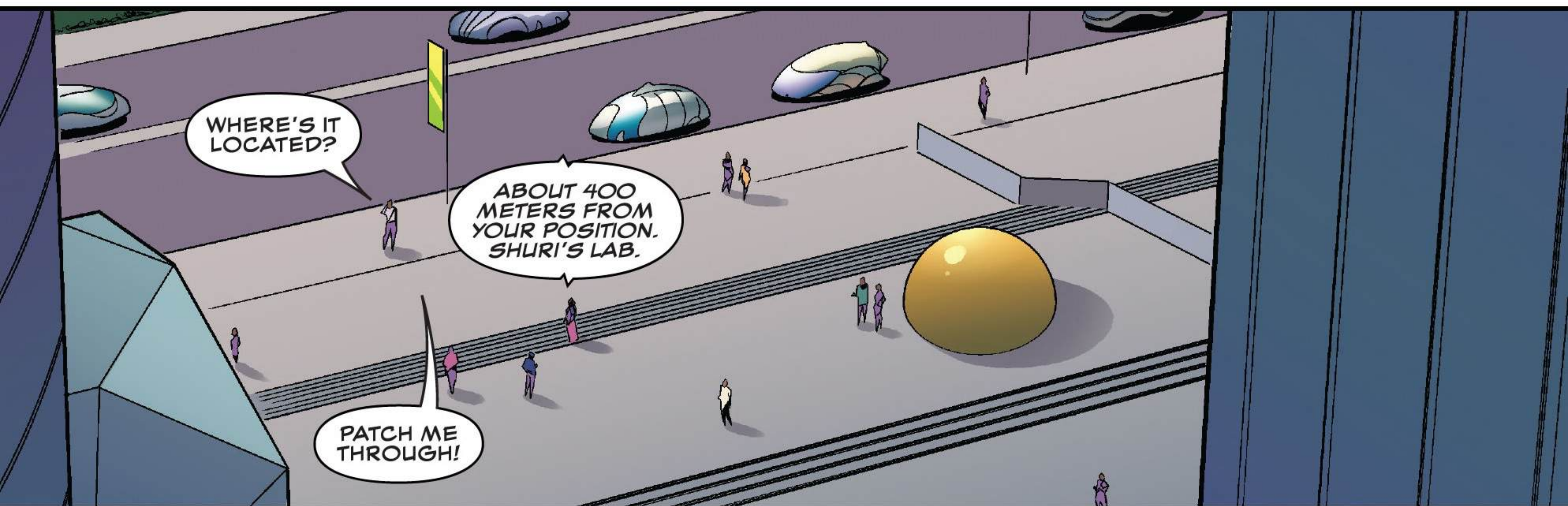
AND THE METALLURGICAL ANALYSIS ON THE OTHER ITEM?

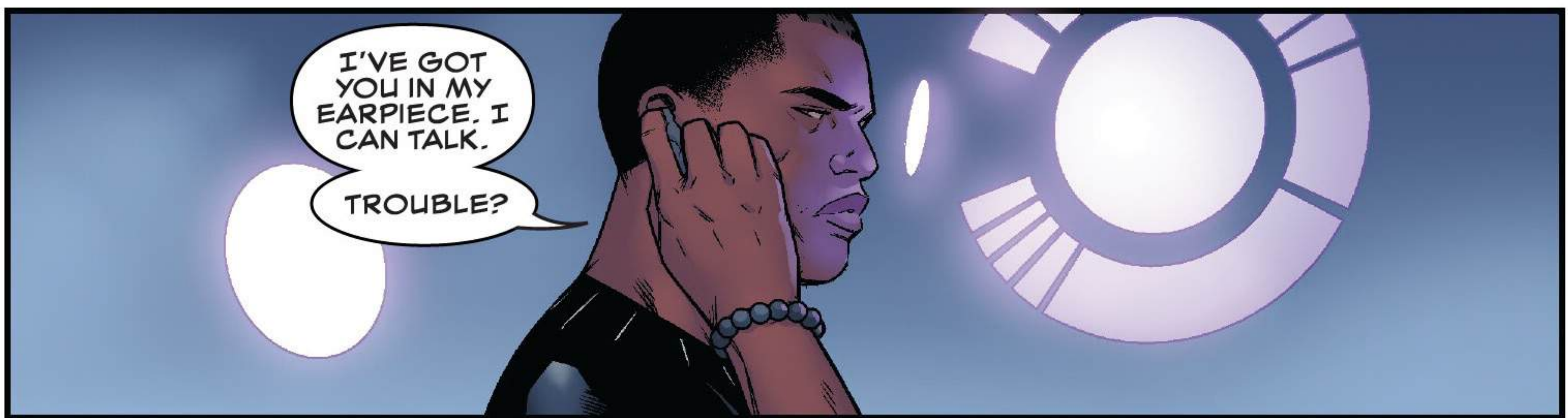
METALLURGICAL MATCH IS 88.28 PERCENT.

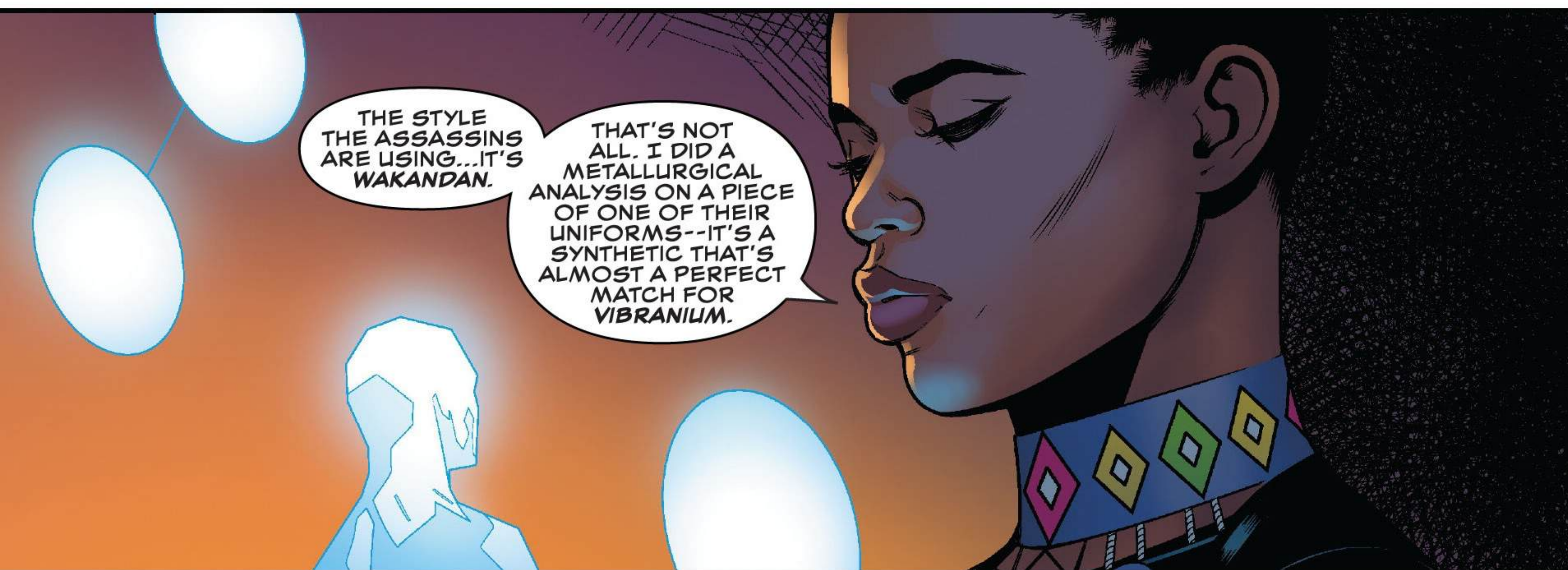
THEN I THINK WE HAVE OURSELVES A PROBLEM.

"AKILI, I THINK THAT WE MAY HAVE A PROBLEM."









THE STYLE
THE ASSASSINS
ARE USING...IT'S
WAKANDAN.

THAT'S NOT
ALL. I DID A
METALLURGICAL
ANALYSIS ON A PIECE
OF ONE OF THEIR
UNIFORMS--IT'S A
SYNTHETIC THAT'S
ALMOST A PERFECT
MATCH FOR
VIBRANIUM.



SYNTHETIC
VIBRANIUM? THAT'S
NOT POSSIBLE.

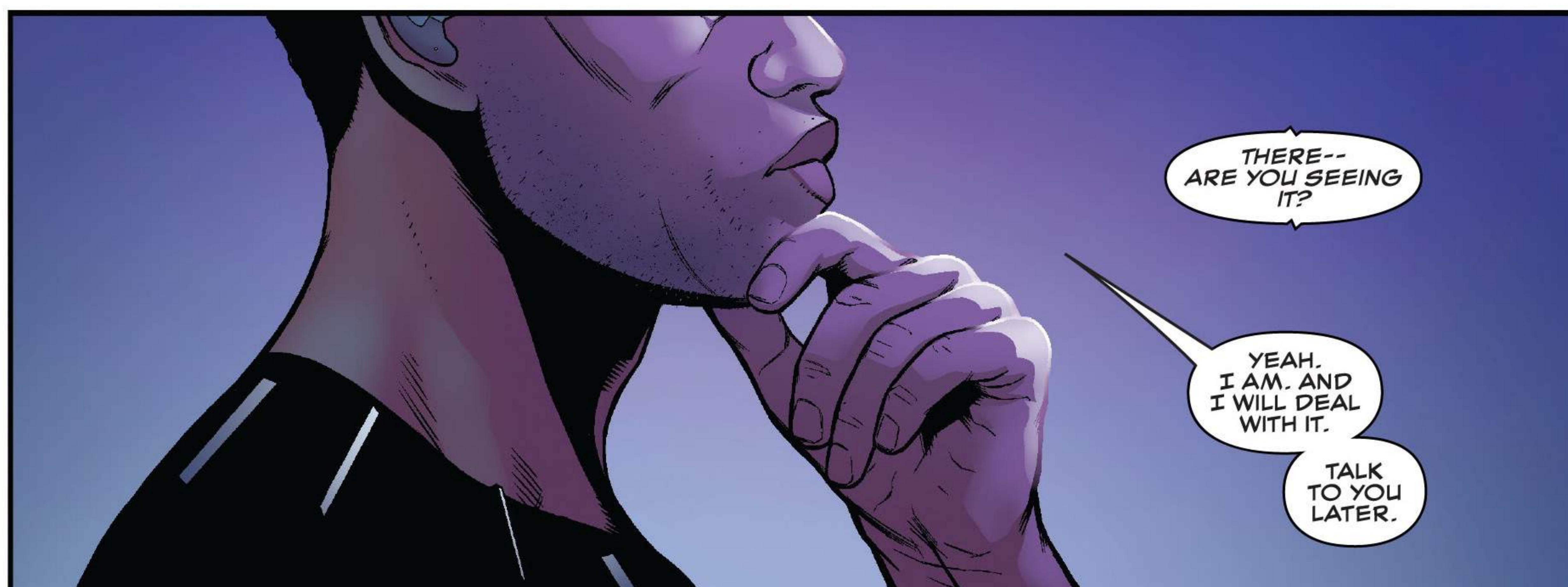
IT'S NOT
VIBRANIUM. BUT
WHOEVER MADE IT HAS
TO BE VERY FAMILIAR
WITH VIBRANIUM'S
PROPERTIES.

I'D SAY
THEY'D HAVE
TO BE--



--WAKANDAN.

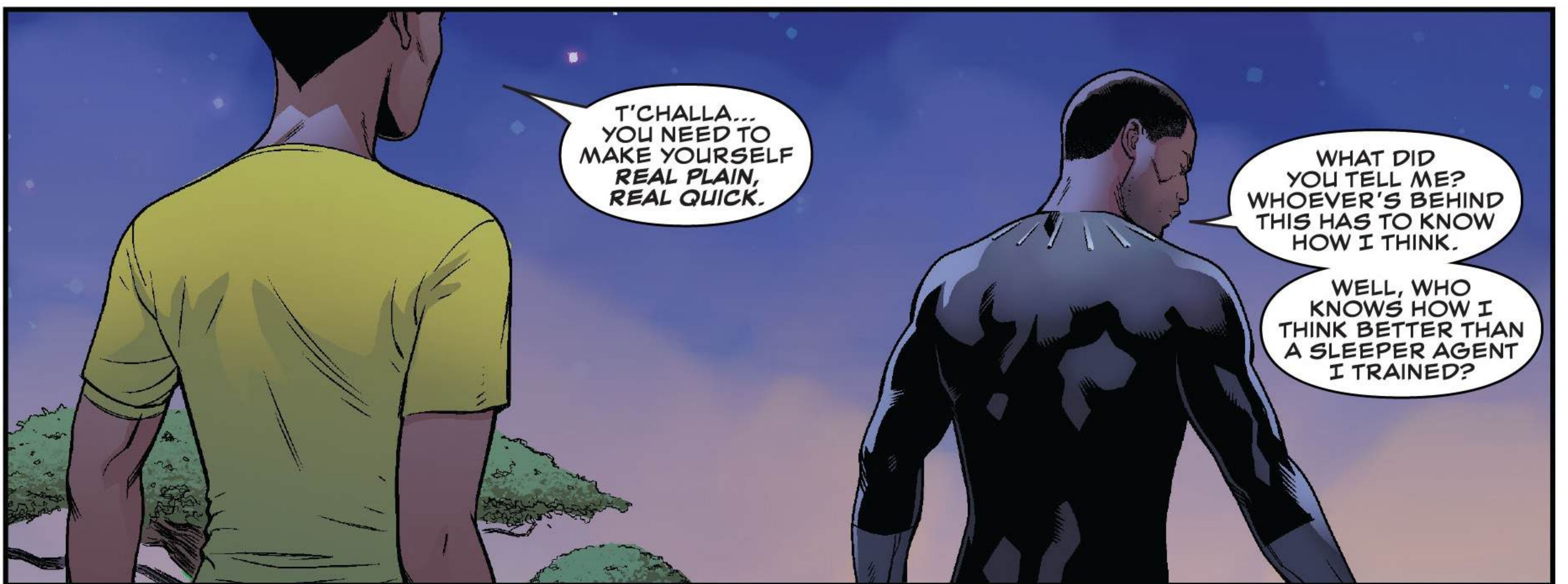
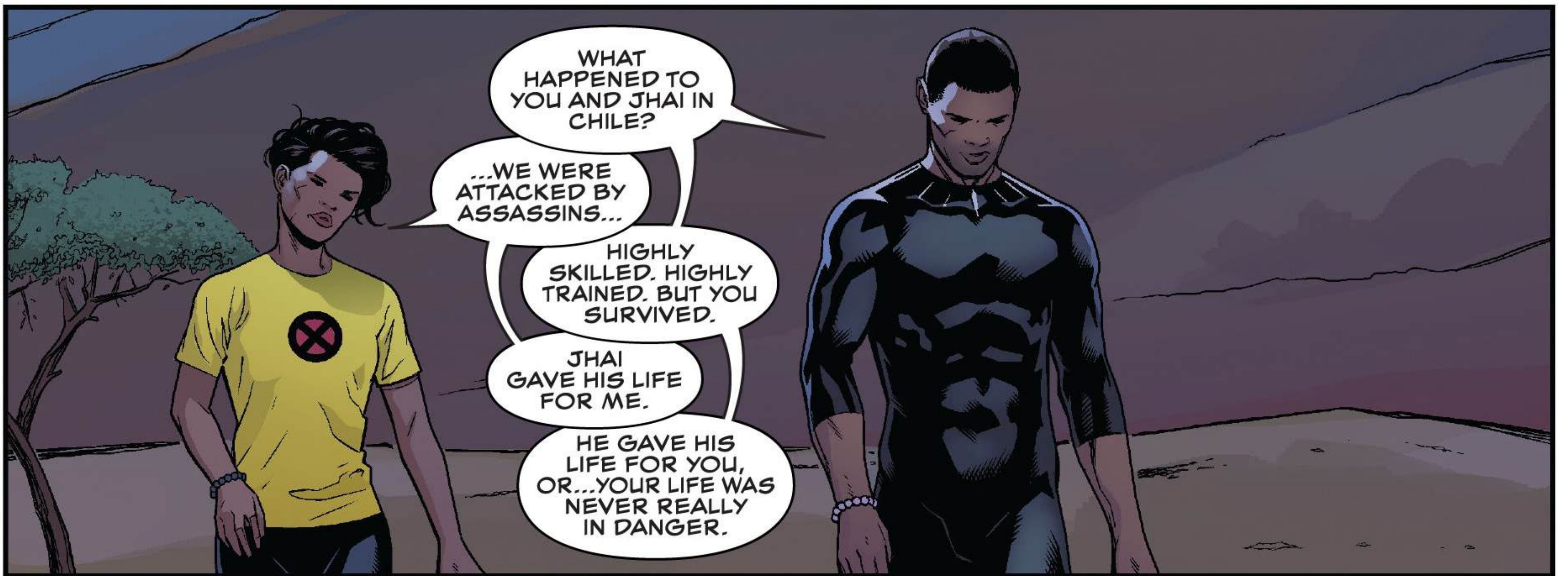
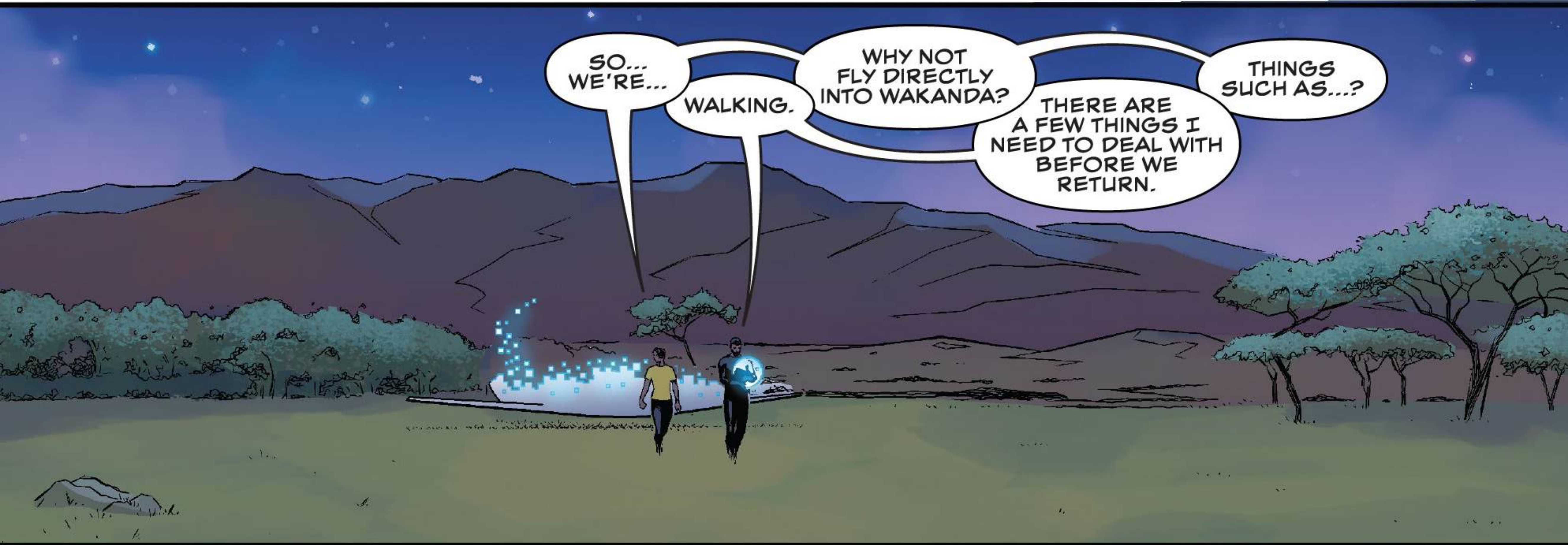
T'CHALLA...
THERE'S
SOMETHING ELSE
I NEED TO
SHOW YOU.

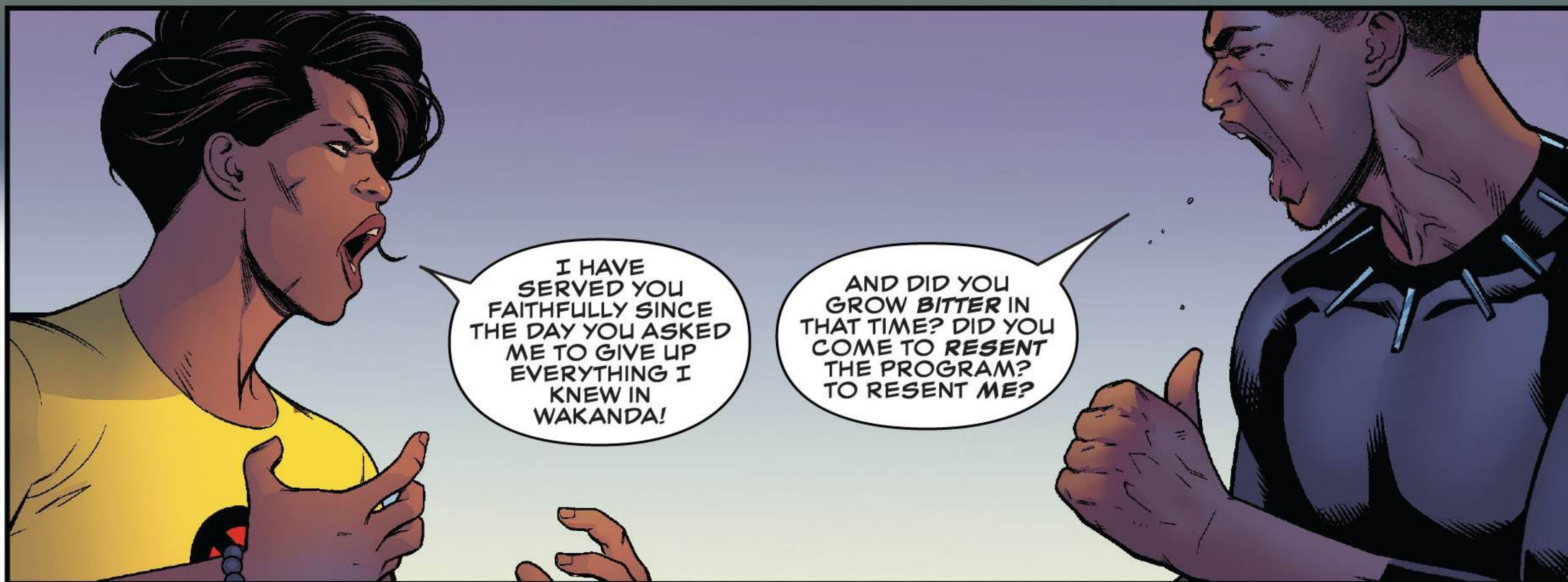


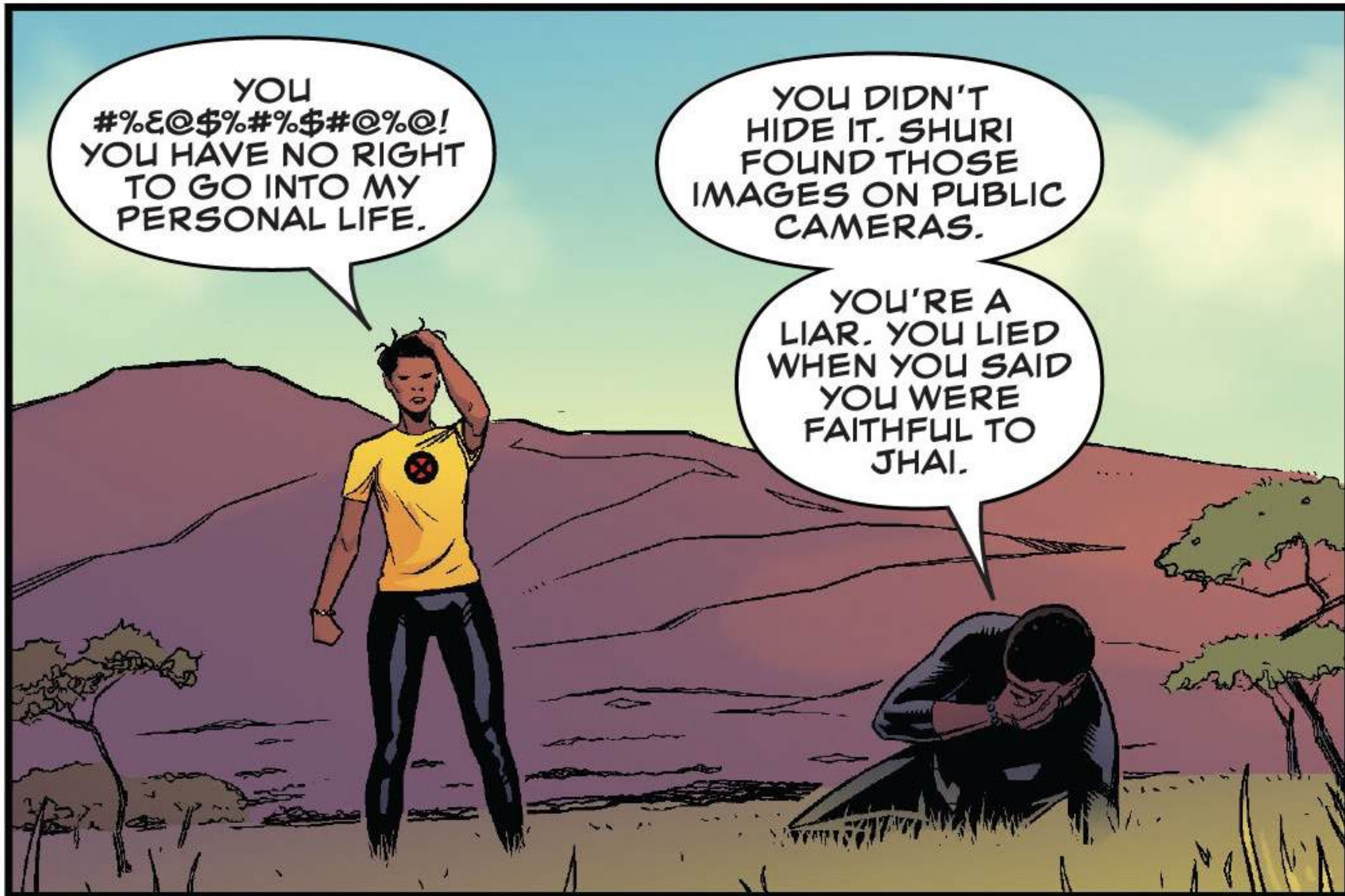
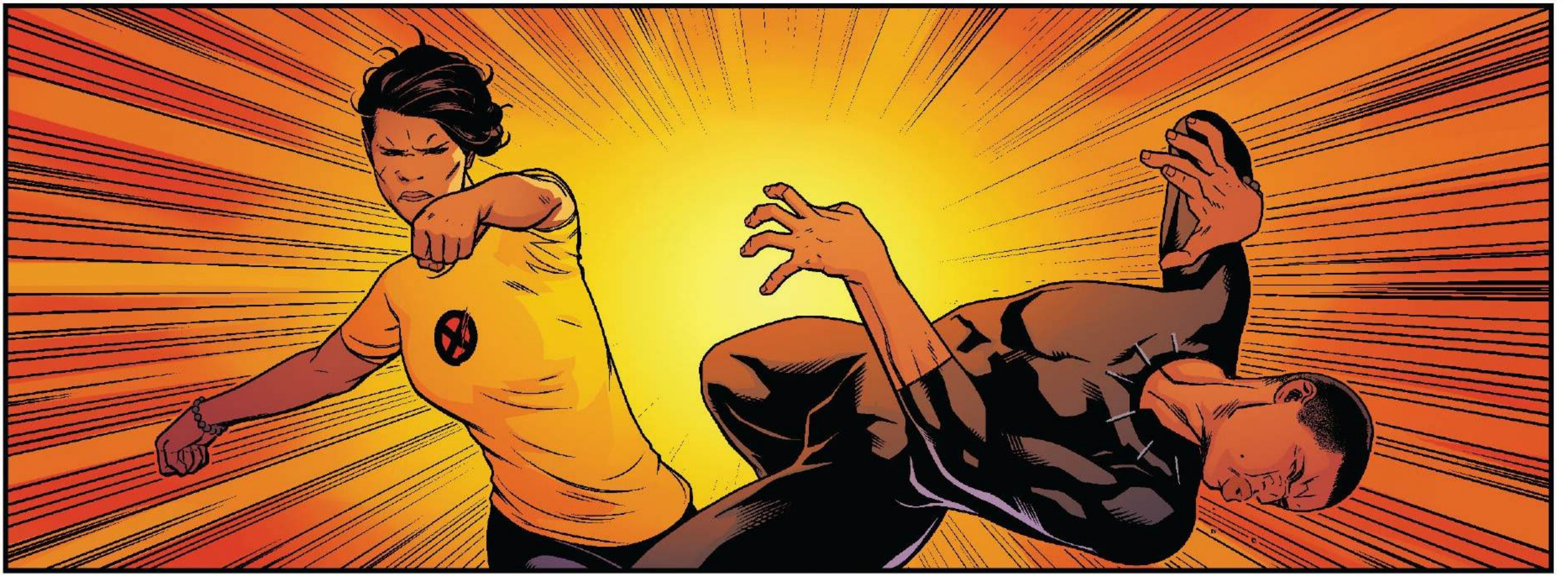
THERE--
ARE YOU SEEING
IT?

YEAH.
I AM. AND
I WILL DEAL
WITH IT.

TALK
TO YOU
LATER.











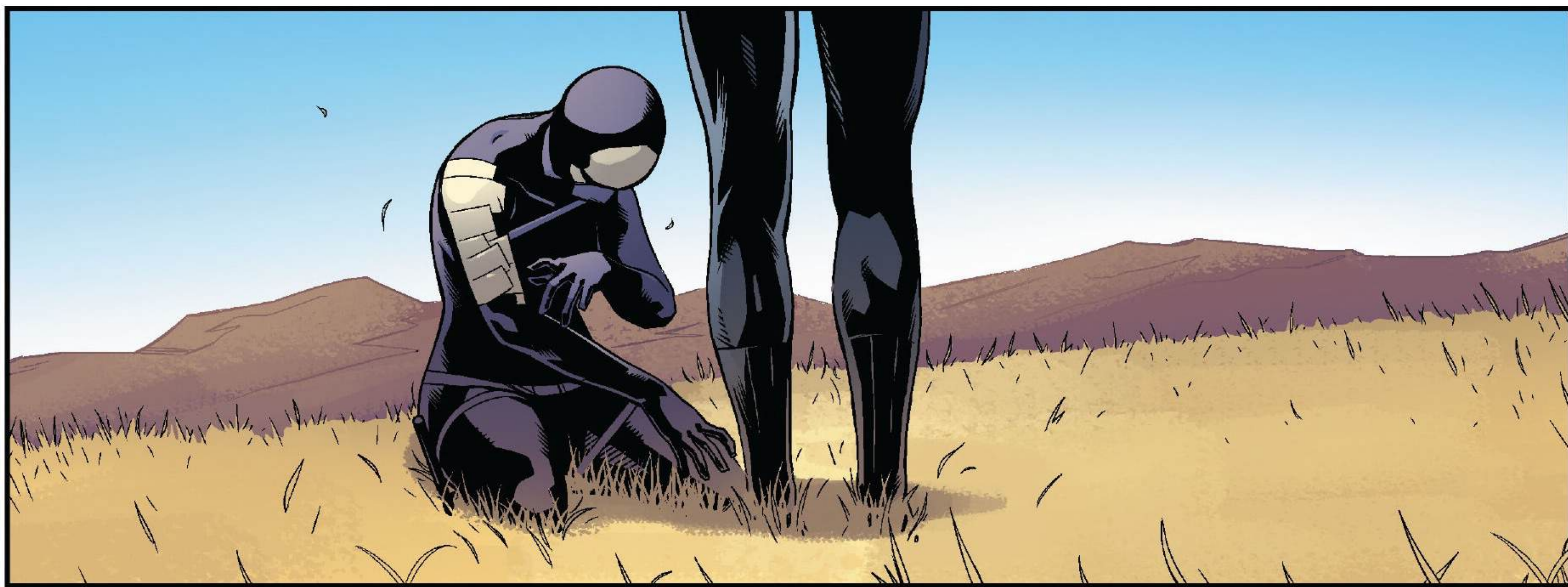
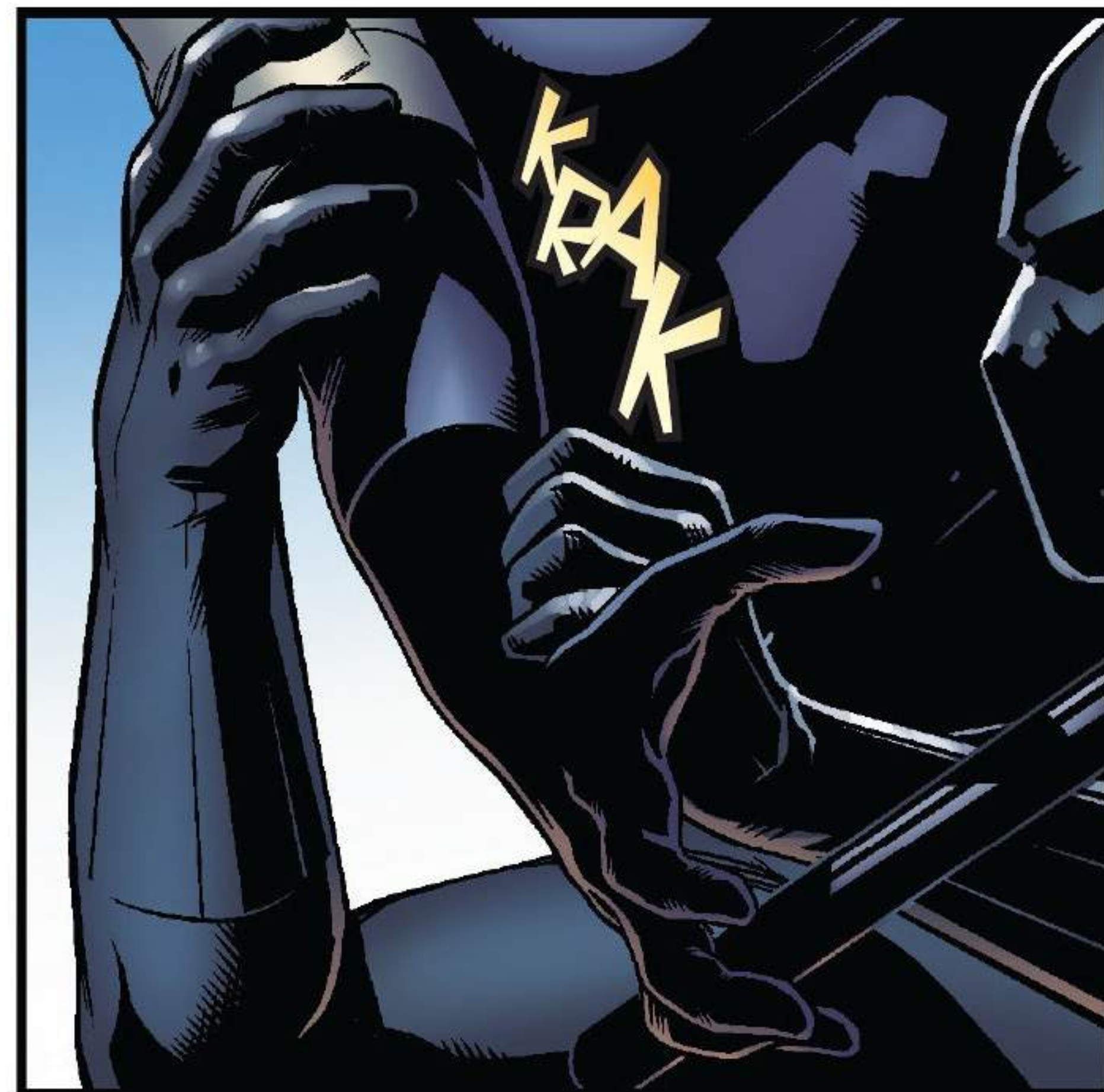


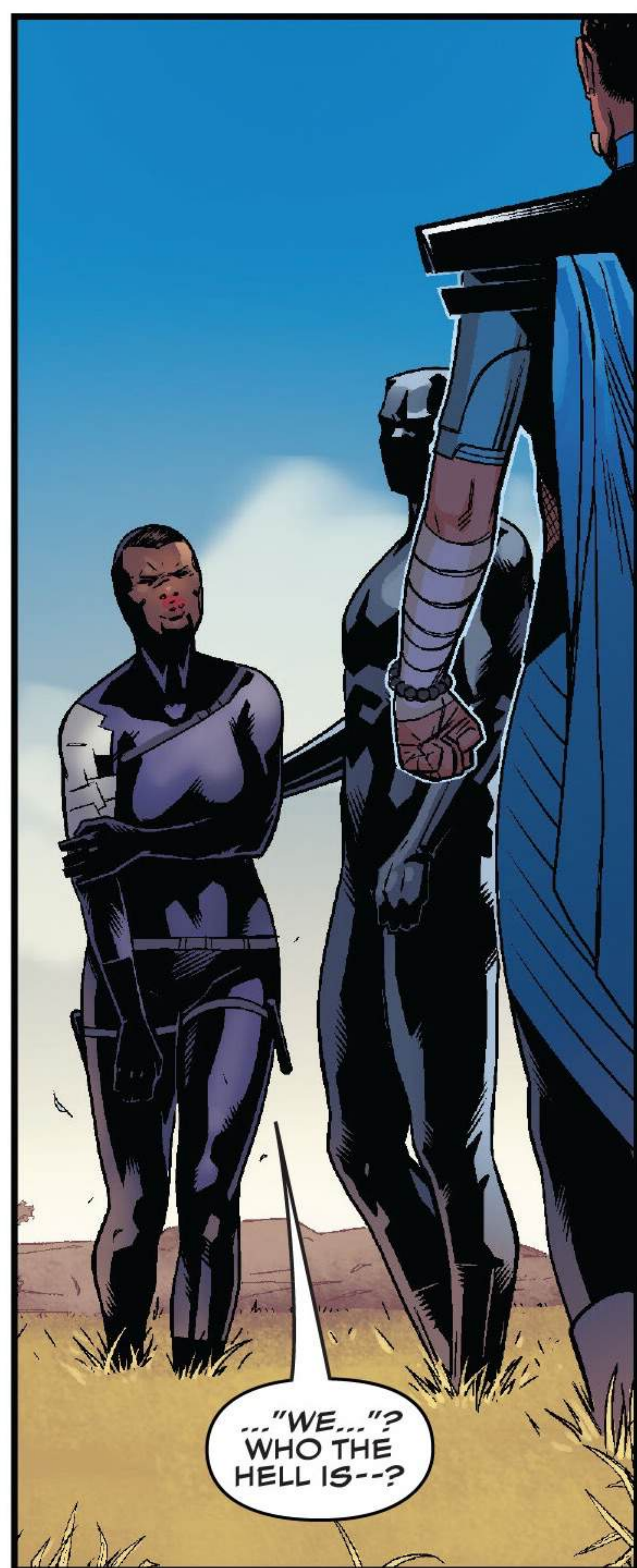
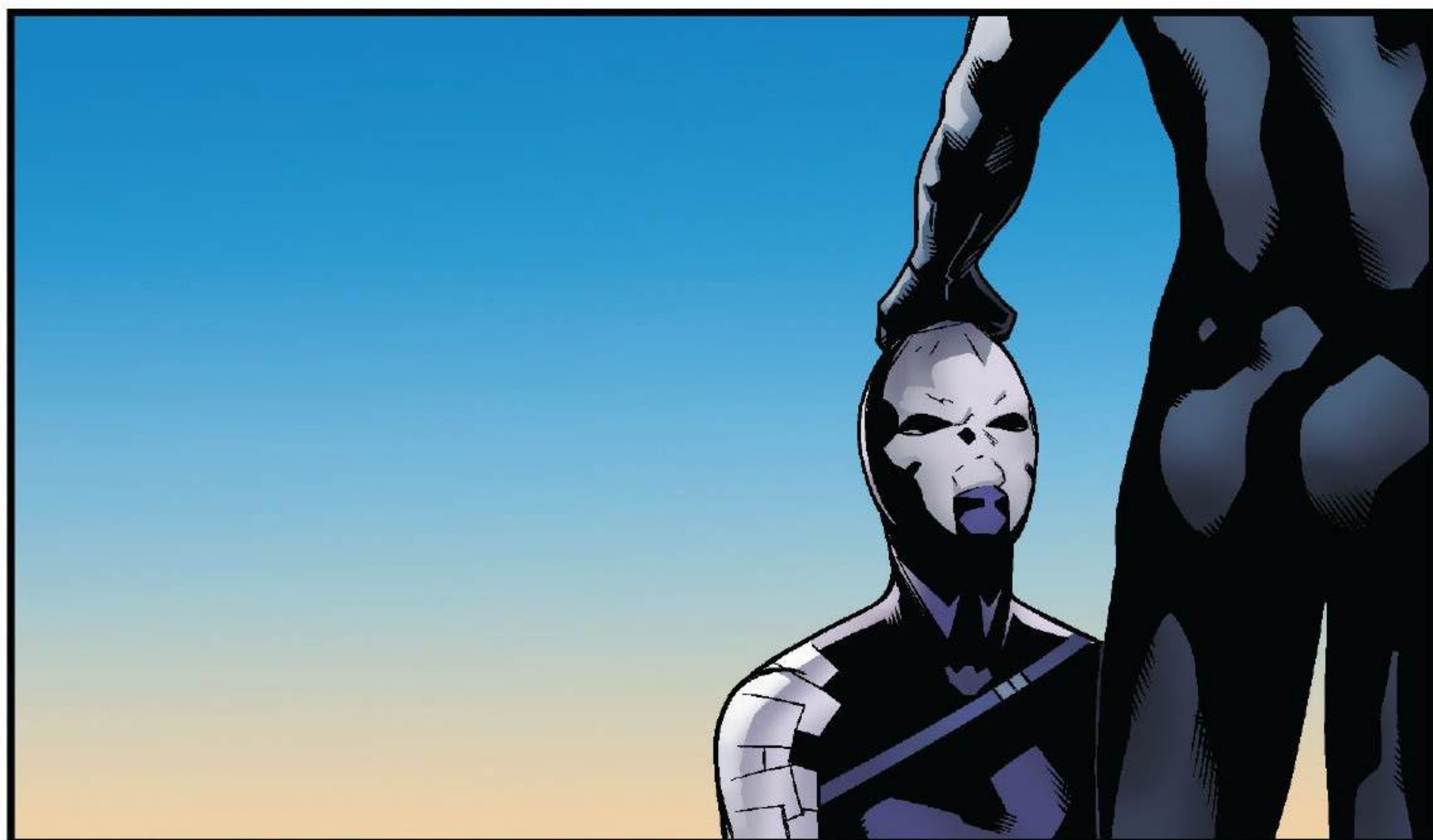
GIVE IT
UP, OR I WILL
KILL YOU.

OMOLOLA...

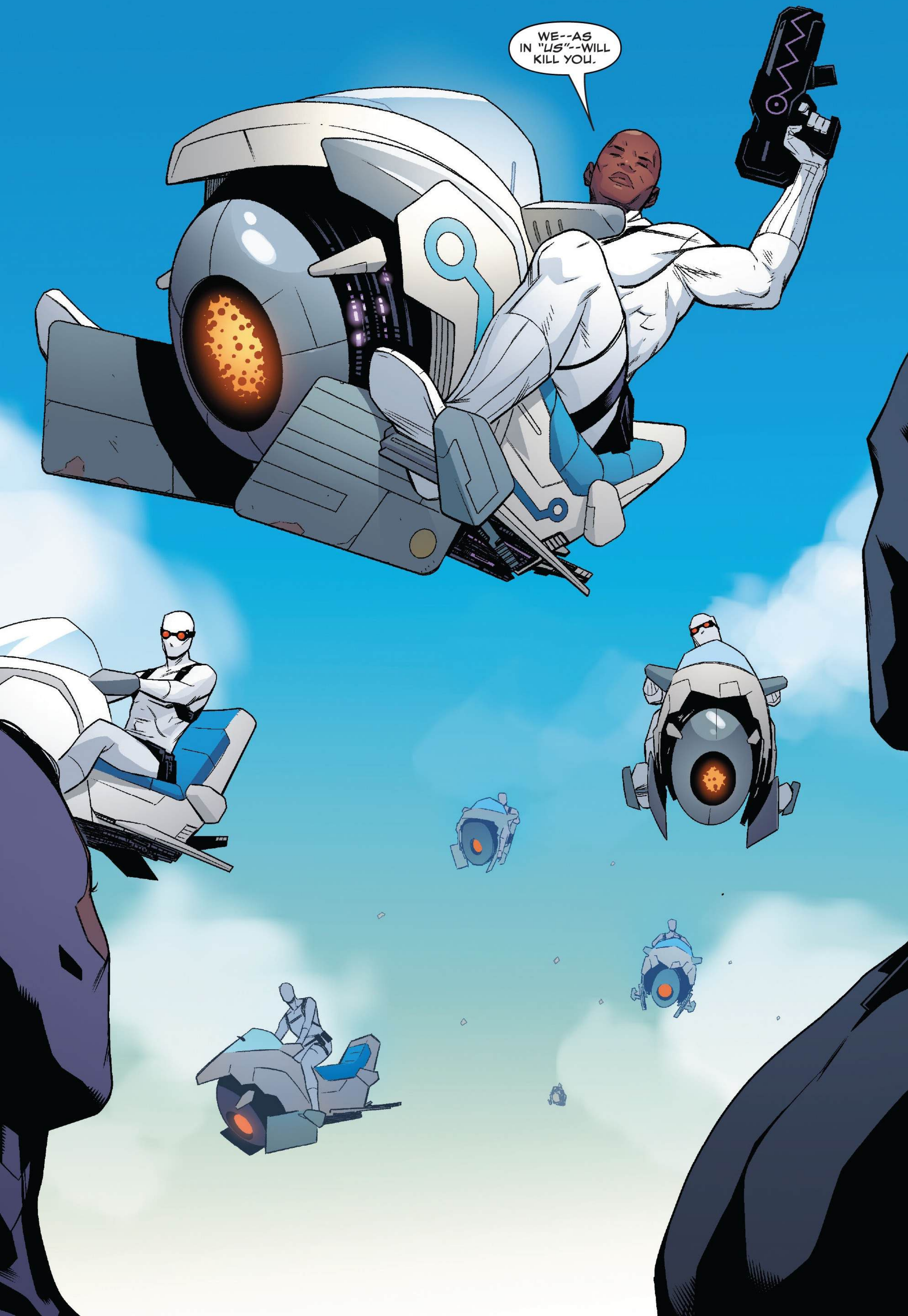


...YOU'RE
NOT THAT
GOOD.





WE--AS
IN "US"--WILL
KILL YOU.





THERE'S A TIME
AND A PLACE FOR
EVERYTHING.

YOU ACCUSE
ME OF BEING A
LIAR. AND I
HAVE LIED.

YOU CLAIM
I'VE DECEIVED YOU.
YEAH. I'VE BEEN
DECEITFUL.

A TIME FOR ACTION,
AND A TIME FOR
ACCOUNTABILITY.

BUT
EVERYTHING
I DID, I DID IN
SERVICE TO MY
COUNTRY, AND
MY KING.

IT USED TO BE, AS KING
OF WAKANDA, I WAS THE
ONE WHO DECIDED
WHICH WAS NEEDED.



FOR THAT, PRIME MINISTER, I WILL NEVER APOLOGIZE.

BUT TIMES HAVE CHANGED.

YOU CLAIM TO SERVE YOUR KING, OMOLOLA--BUT IT WAS YOUR KING YOU WERE ATTEMPTING TO KILL WHEN AKILI AND HIS HATUT ZERAZE FOUND YOU.

AND SHURI HAS UNCOVERED EVIDENCE YOU COMMITTED TREASON.

PARLIAMENT, WAKANDA.



SHURI'S UNCOVERED LIES.



SAYS THE LIAR.



YOU ALL WRITE THE NARRATIVE, AND I'M JUST SUPPOSED TO PLAY THE PART.

I SHOULD HAVE KILLED T'CHALLA WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE.



WELL, THAT'S SURE NOT HELPING YOURSELF.

AKILI, HAVE OMOLOLA REMANDED INTO CUSTODY. IMMEDIATELY.



TRAGIC.
BUT SHE'LL GET
MORE JUSTICE
THAN J'HAI
DID.

T'CHALLA,
THERE'S STILL
THE ISSUE OF YOUR
ENTIRE "SLEEPER"
PROGRAM.



THERE IS NO "ISSUE,"
FOLASADE. IT WAS A FAIL-
SAFE AGAINST ANY
AGGRESSORS.

PUT IN
PLACE BY YOU,
UNILATERALLY,
WITH NO
OVERSIGHT...

I DON'T REQUIRE
"SUPERVISION."
I'M KING.



YOU WERE KING.
BUT WAKANDA
IS RUN BY
THE PEOPLE
NOW.

WE HAVE A RIGHT
TO DETERMINE
IN WHOSE
INTEREST YOU
ACTED.

OR DO
YOU THINK
YOU'RE ABOVE
THE PEOPLE?



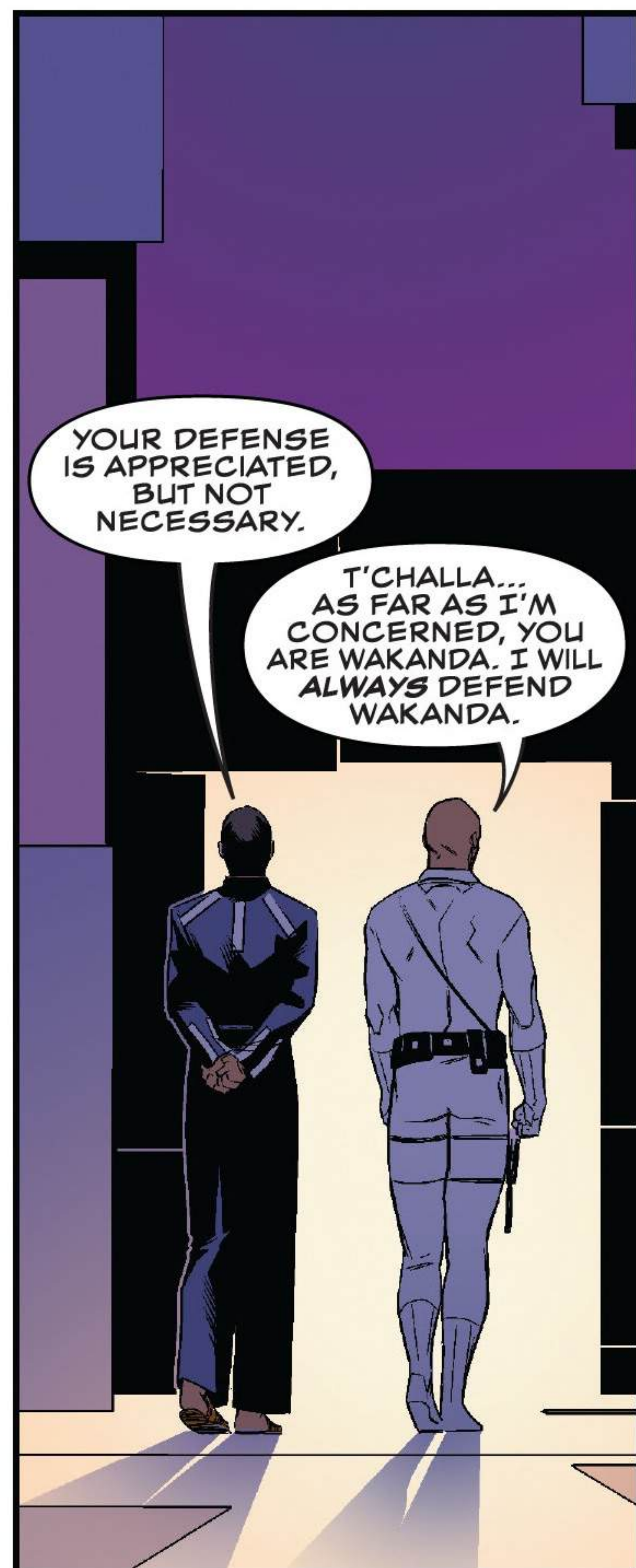
I'LL TELL
YOU WHAT
I THINK: I
THINK--

MADAM,
DESPITE BEING
ROYALTY, T'CHALLA
HAS ALWAYS PUT
THE GOOD OF
THE PEOPLE
FIRST.

ANY
INVESTIGATION
WILL DETERMINE
NOTHING LESS.



WE'LL KEEP
THAT IN MIND AS
WE BEGIN OUR
INQUIRY.



YOUR DEFENSE
IS APPRECIATED,
BUT NOT
NECESSARY.

T'CHALLA...
AS FAR AS I'M
CONCERNED, YOU
ARE WAKANDA. I WILL
ALWAYS DEFEND
WAKANDA.

**THE PRISON CELLS
OF FORT HAHN.**

I CAME
TO TALK
TO OMOLOLA.
IS SHE
SECURE?

SHE WON'T
GET PAST
HER SECURITY
SHIELD.

SHE SURE
AS HELL WON'T
GET PAST ME.

...SHE'LL
CERTAINLY HAVE
TROUBLE SQUEEZING
PAST THE OVERESTIMATION
OF YOUR OWN
ABILITIES...

WHAT
DO YOU
WANT?

A LITTLE
FACE TIME WITH
THE PERSON WHO
BETRAYED MY
BROTHER.

YOU KNOW,
THERE AREN'T A
LOT OF PEOPLE WHO
CAN SAY THEY'VE
ACTUALLY HURT
T'CHALLA.

ALL I DID...WAS PUNCH
HIM IN THE FACE. TRUST
ME, HE HAD IT
COMING.

THE DAMAGE
YOU DID WAS
WAY WORSE THAN
PHYSICAL.

YOU
MURDERED JHAI.
YOU WOULD'VE BEEN
BETTER OFF TAKING
T'CHALLA'S LIFE THAN
KILLING HIS BEST FRIEND.

I'M NOT A
TRAITOR.

I'VE
SEEN THE
EVIDENCE.

BUT YOU
DRAW YOUR OWN
CONCLUSION.

WHY WOULD
I KILL JHAI?
WHAT DID I HAVE
TO GAIN?



HOW MUCH GUILT DID YOU FEEL KNOWING THAT JHAI HAD MORE FIDELITY TO T'CHALLA THAN YOU HAD FOR JHAI?

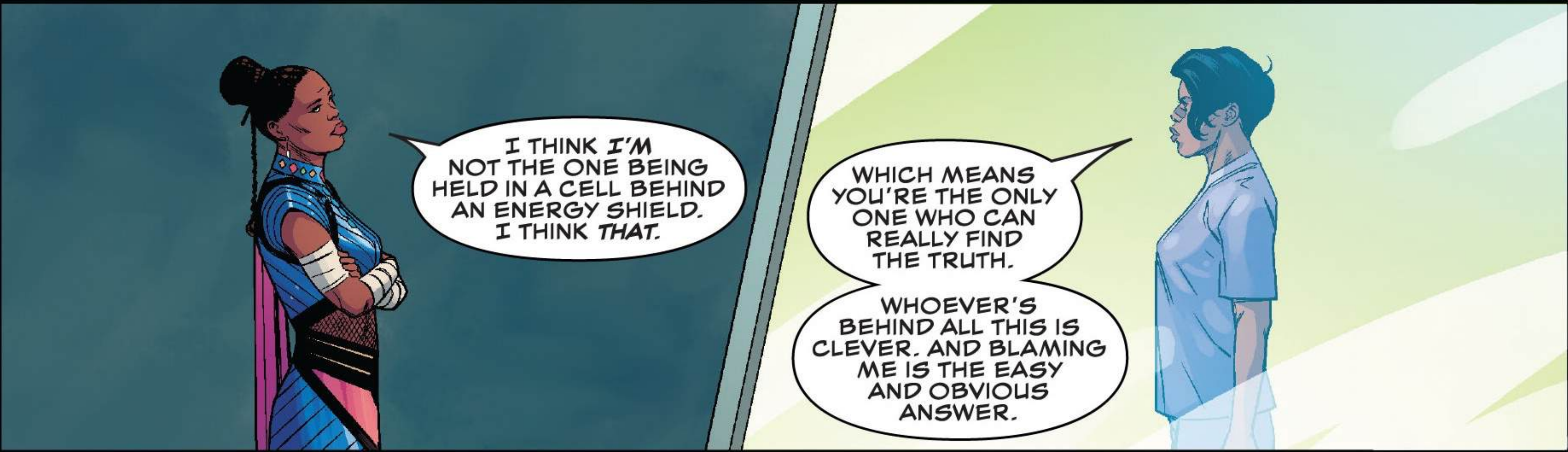
KILLING JHAI WAS A WAY TO RID YOURSELF OF JEALOUSY AND SHAME.



WOW, REALLY? I WAS SO CAUGHT UP IN THEIR MALENESS, I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO KILL JHAI IN A HYSTERICAL FIT 'CAUSE WITHOUT HIM TO DEFINE ME, I'D CEASE TO EXIST.

I WOULD DO ALL THAT 'CAUSE I'M REALLY JUST A BIG, FAT SACK FULL OF "GIRL STUFF."

SOMETIMES, SHURI... YOU HAVE SO MUCH INTELLECT, BUT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO THINK.



I THINK I'M NOT THE ONE BEING HELD IN A CELL BEHIND AN ENERGY SHIELD. I THINK THAT.

WHICH MEANS YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN REALLY FIND THE TRUTH.

WHOEVER'S BEHIND ALL THIS IS CLEVER. AND BLAMING ME IS THE EASY AND OBVIOUS ANSWER.



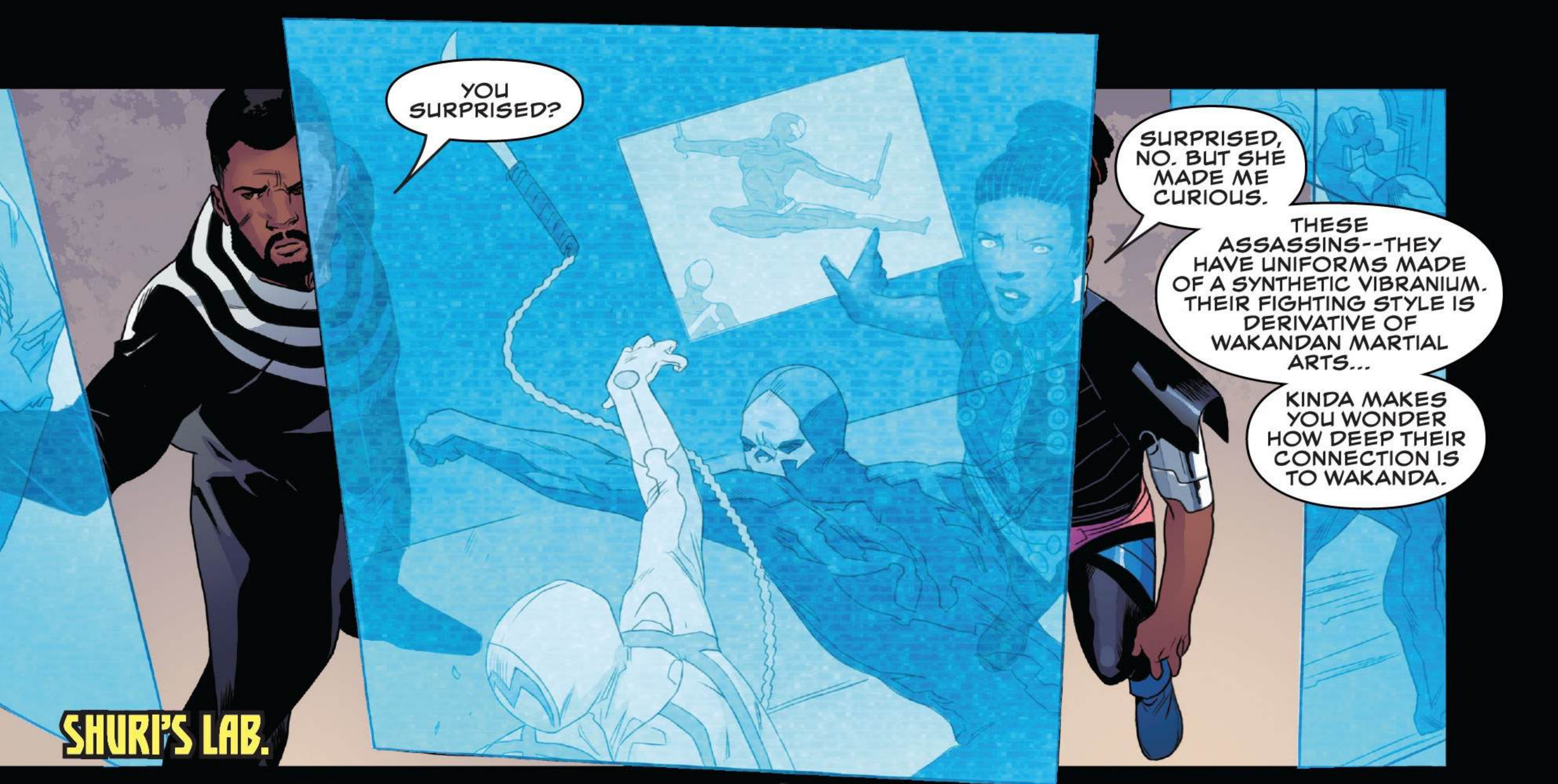
AND SINCE WHEN DID YOU SETTLE FOR EASY OR OBVIOUS?

T'CHALLA WAS BLINDED TO YOUR LIES BY LOSS. I'M A LITTLE MORE CLEARHEADED.



I'LL DO SOME DIGGING...BUT YOU'D BETTER HOPE I DON'T END UP BURYING YOU.

"I TALKED TO OMOLOLA. SHE INSISTS SHE'S INNOCENT."



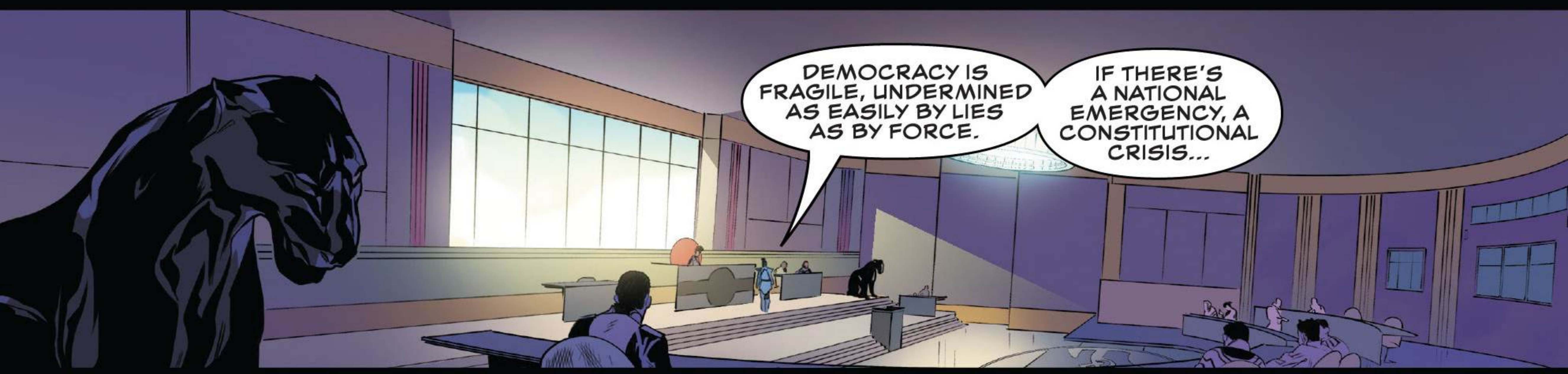
SHURI'S LAB.





THAT IS QUITE THE ACCUSATION YOU'RE MAKING.

IS IT? CAN YOU DENY THE FACTS?



DEMOCRACY IS FRAGILE, UNDERMINED AS EASILY BY LIES AS BY FORCE.

IF THERE'S A NATIONAL EMERGENCY, A CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS...



...AKILI IS WITHIN HIS RIGHTS TO DECLARE MARTIAL LAW AND DEPLOY THE HATUT ZERAZE TO "STABILIZE" WAKANDA.

A COUP. POWER GAINED WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A SHOT FIRED.

THE ONLY THING BETWEEN HIM AND ABSOLUTE CONTROL: T'CHALLA'S SLEEPER AGENTS.

SO HE ARMED AND DIRECTED ASSASSINS TO KILL THE AGENTS, STARTING WITH JHAI.



WELL...THAT IS CERTAINLY SOME COMPLICATED THINKING.

BUT ITS UNWIELDY NATURE HIDES A MUCH SIMPLER EXPLANATION. I'D SAY THE ONE WITH THE MOST TO GAIN FROM A DESTABILIZED WAKANDA...



...IS T'CHALLA HIMSELF.

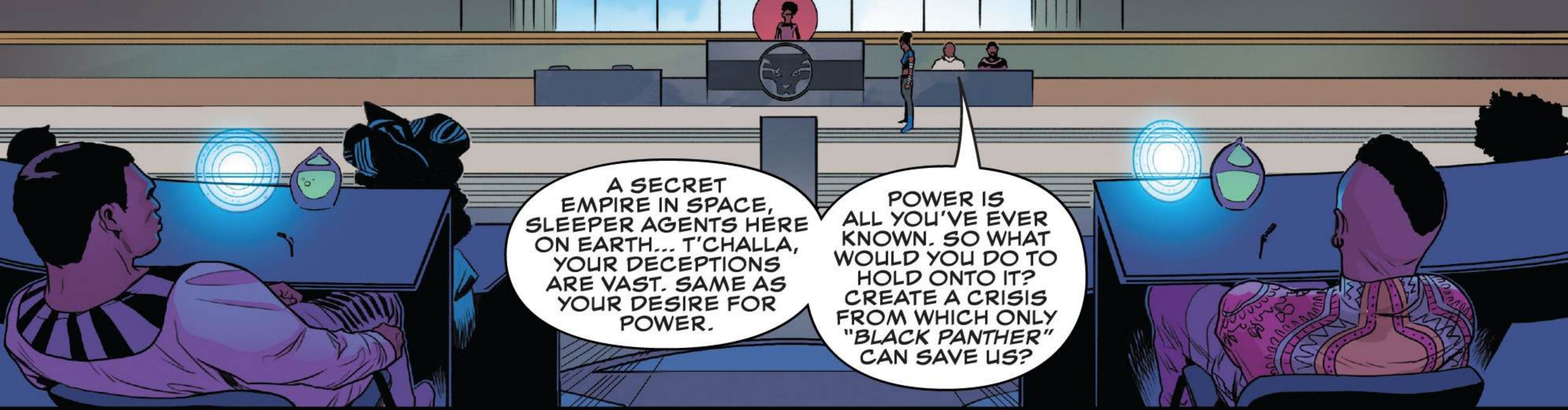
YOU'RE ACCUSING ME OF SEDITION AGAINST MY OWN COUNTRY, AKILI?

BUT IT'S NOT "YOUR" COUNTRY ANY LONGER, IS IT?

AND I'VE BEEN ACCUSED, OMOLOLA'S BEEN ACCUSED... IF THIS IS REALLY A COURT OF INQUIRY, LET'S INQUIRE.

I HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE.





A SECRET EMPIRE IN SPACE, SLEEPER AGENTS HERE ON EARTH... T'CHALLA, YOUR DECEPTIONS ARE VAST. SAME AS YOUR DESIRE FOR POWER.

POWER IS ALL YOU'VE EVER KNOWN. SO WHAT WOULD YOU DO TO HOLD ONTO IT? CREATE A CRISIS FROM WHICH ONLY "BLACK PANTHER" CAN SAVE US?



YOU PAINT THE PICTURE OF A CRAZED DICTATOR. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A PEOPLE'S KING.

CERTAINLY. AS LONG AS YOU, AND YOU ALONE, HAD ULTIMATE CONTROL OF THE PEOPLE.

THAT WOULD EXPLAIN "KILLSWITCH."



HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT--?

I RUN THE SECRET POLICE. KNOWING SECRETS IS MY BUSINESS.

WHAT-- THE HELL--IS "KILLSWITCH"?

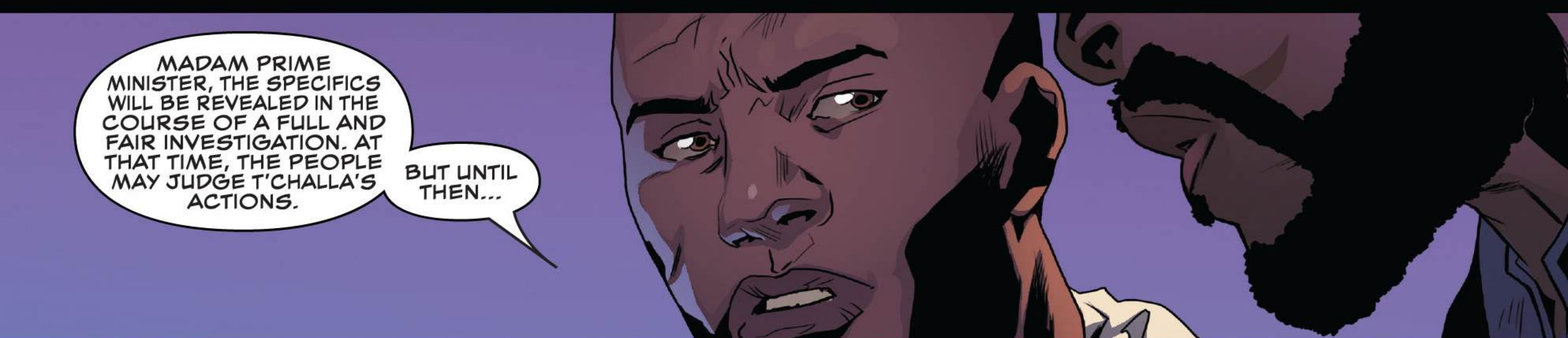


DO YOU CARE TO EXPLAIN TO THE PRIME MINISTER?

...I...

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, ANY EXPLANATION WOULD SEEM...

TREACHEROUS?



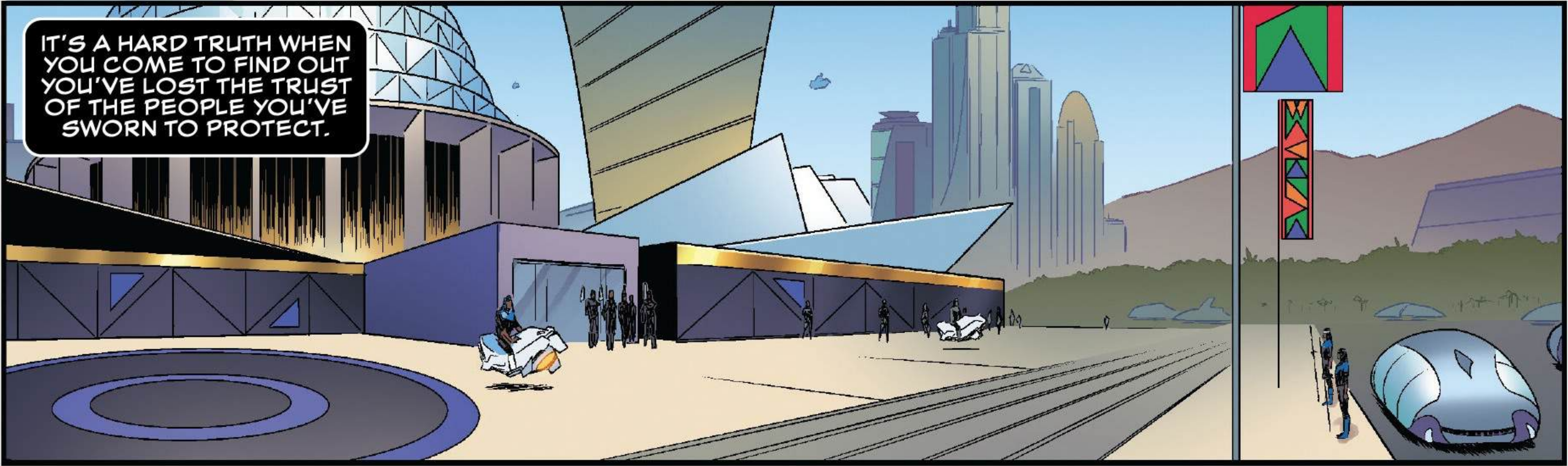
MADAM PRIME MINISTER, THE SPECIFICS WILL BE REVEALED IN THE COURSE OF A FULL AND FAIR INVESTIGATION. AT THAT TIME, THE PEOPLE MAY JUDGE T'CHALLA'S ACTIONS.

BUT UNTIL THEN...

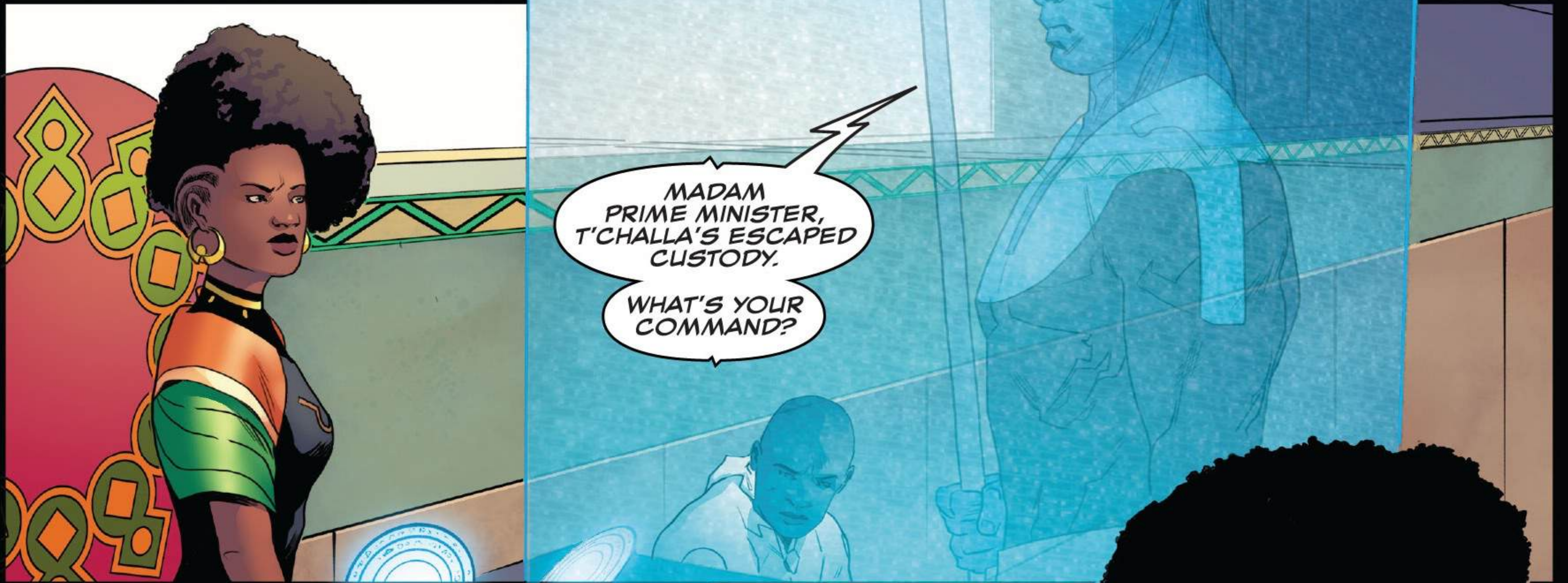


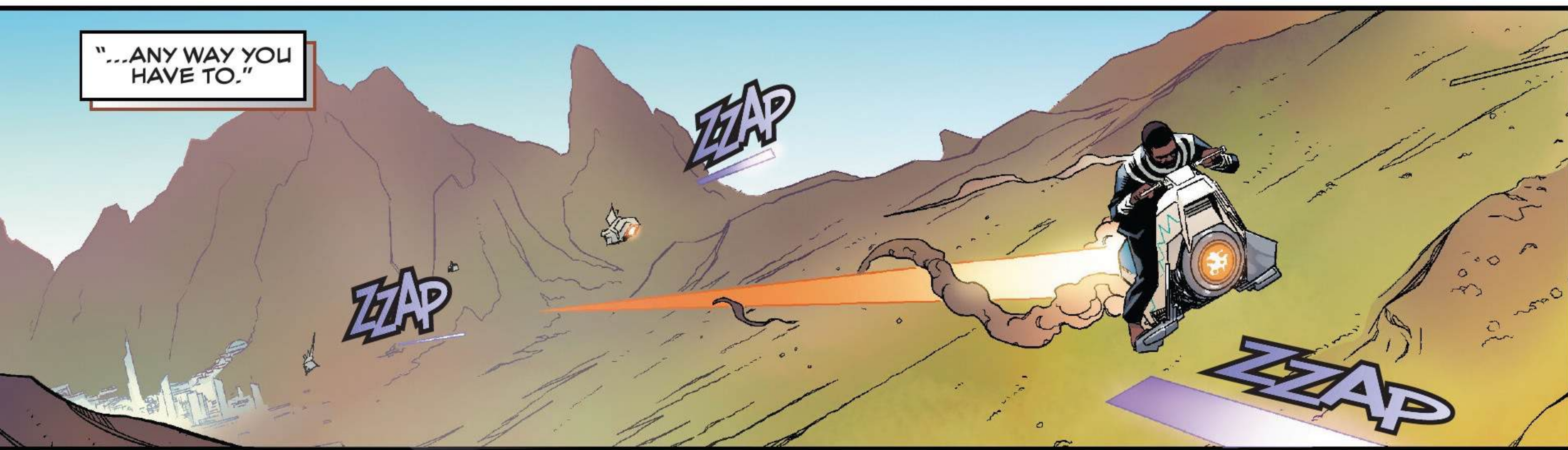
...HOW CAN ANY OF US TRUST HIM?











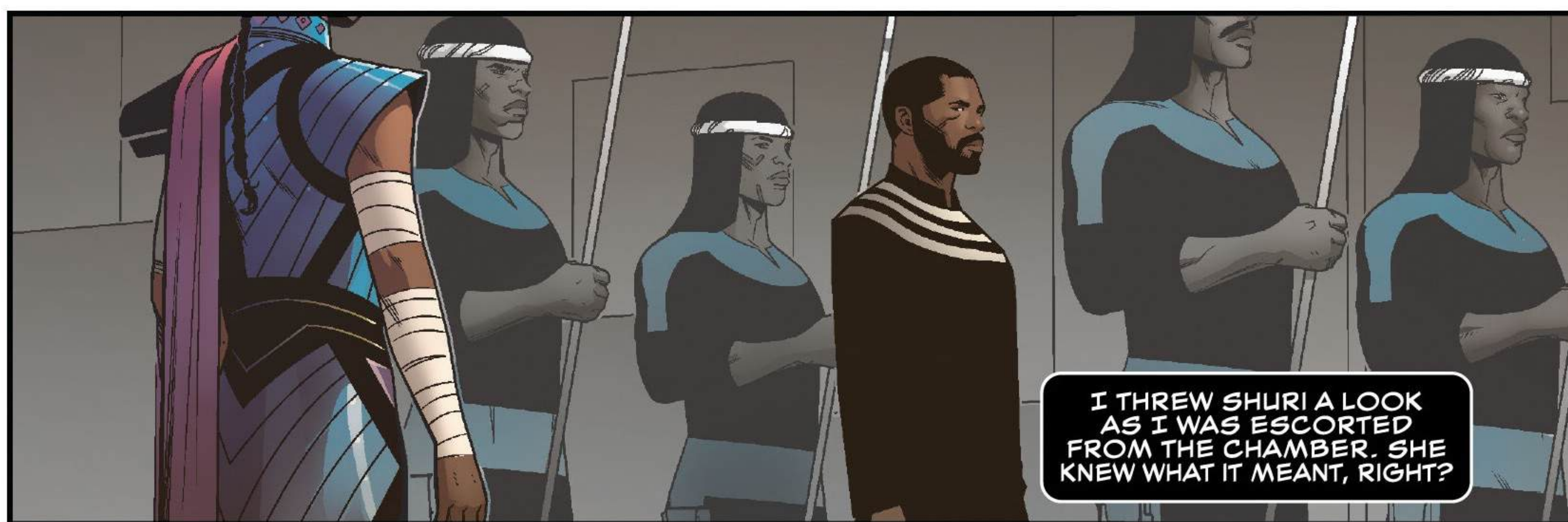
"...ANY WAY YOU HAVE TO."



I KNOW AKILI. I KNOW HE WILL HAVE INVERTED THE SHIELD. WHAT WAS MEANT TO KEEP OTHERS OUT...



...WILL NOW KEEP ME IN. UNLESS...



I THREW SHURI A LOOK AS I WAS ESCORTED FROM THE CHAMBER. SHE KNEW WHAT IT MEANT, RIGHT?



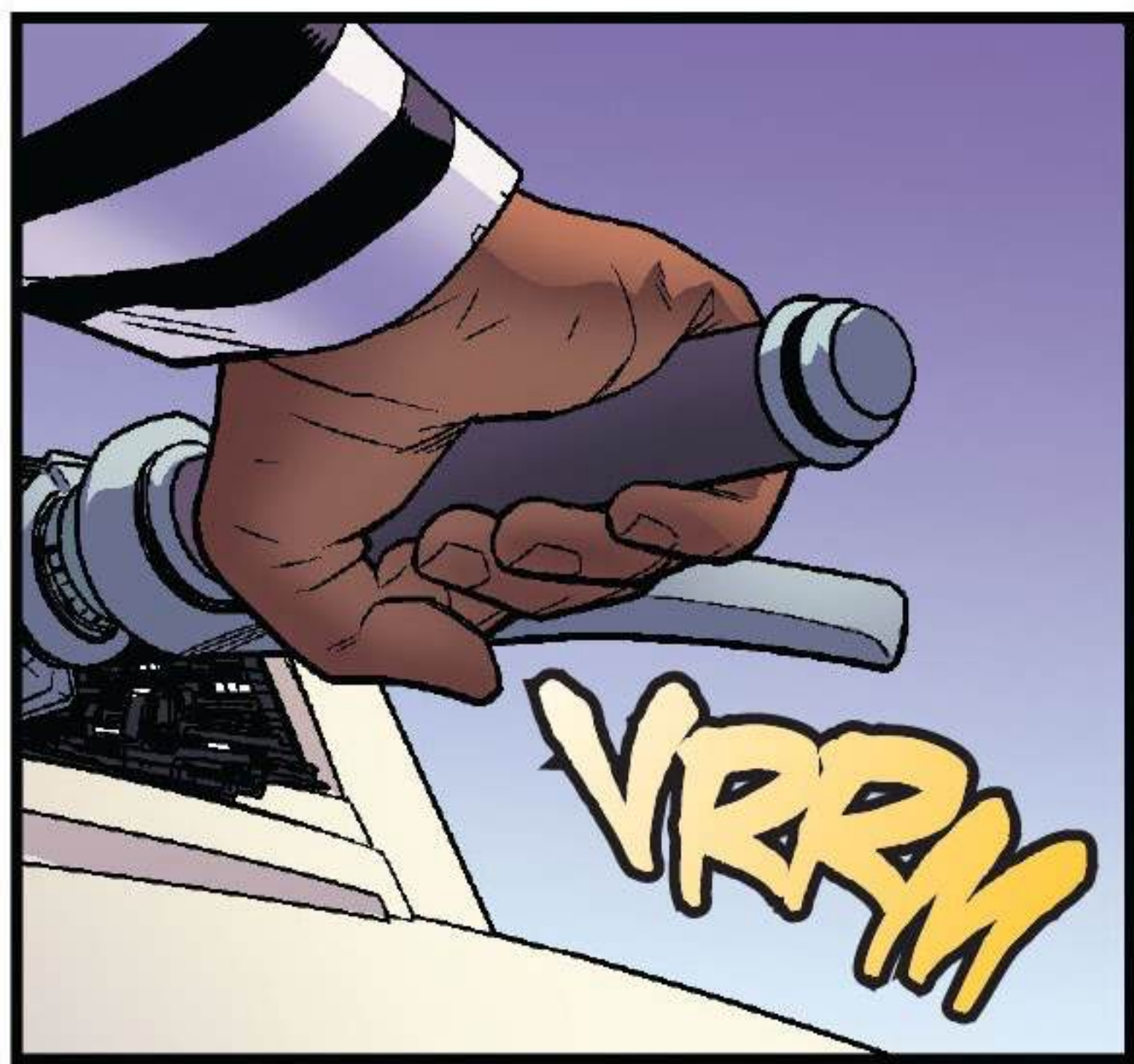
SHE KNOWS NOW'S THE TIME FOR SOME HELP...



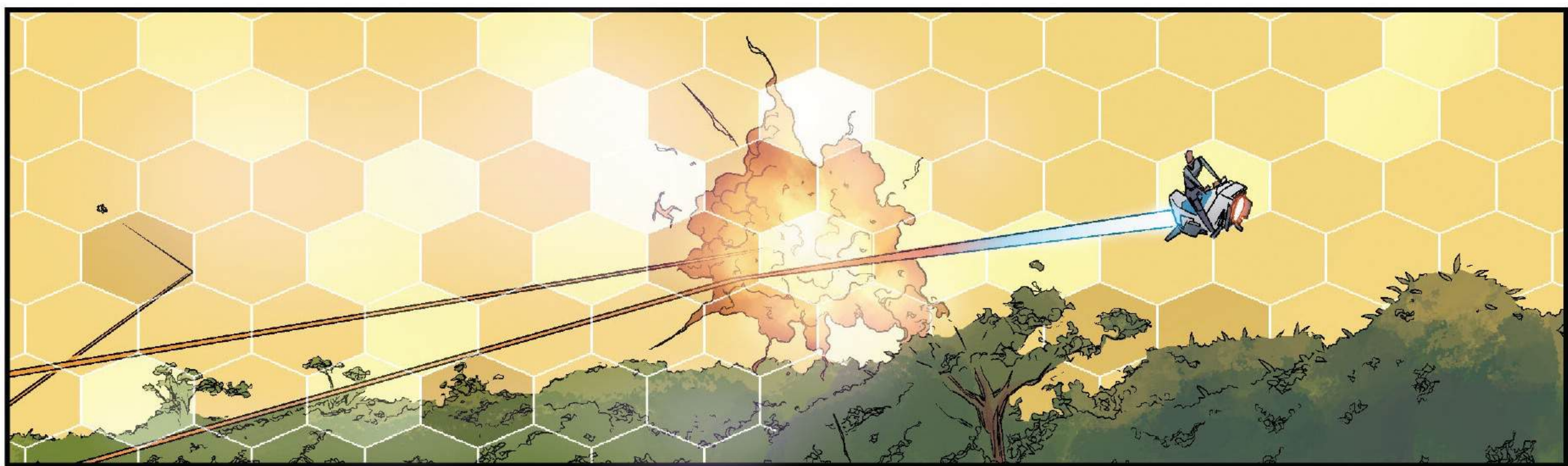
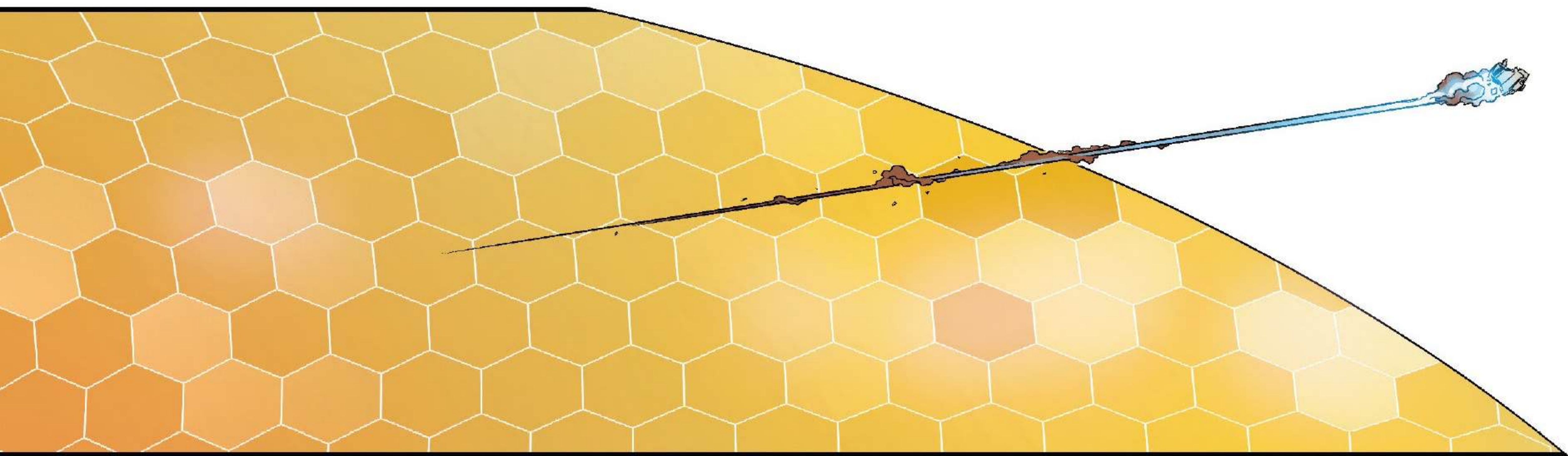
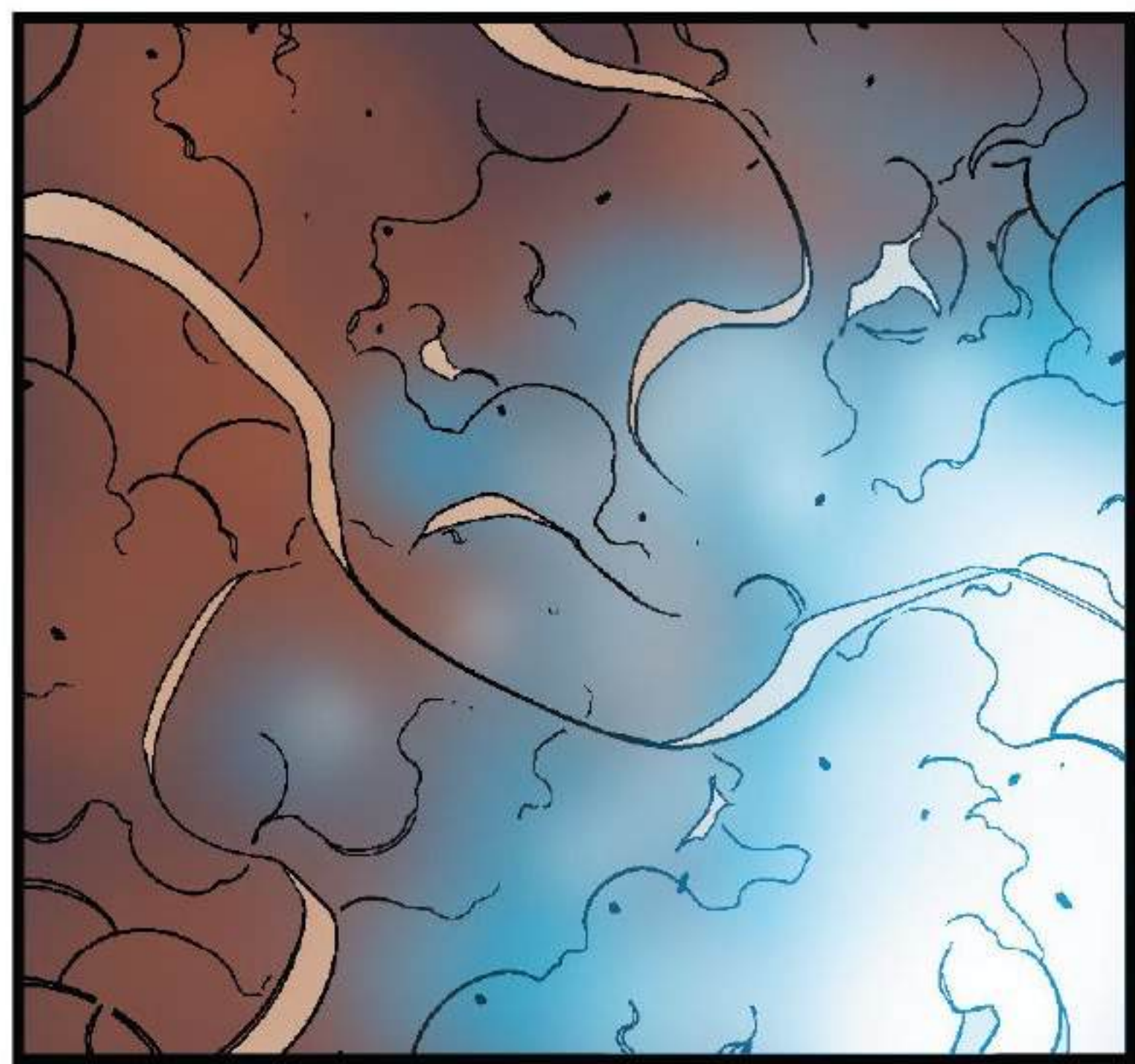
...RIGHT...?



RIGHT.



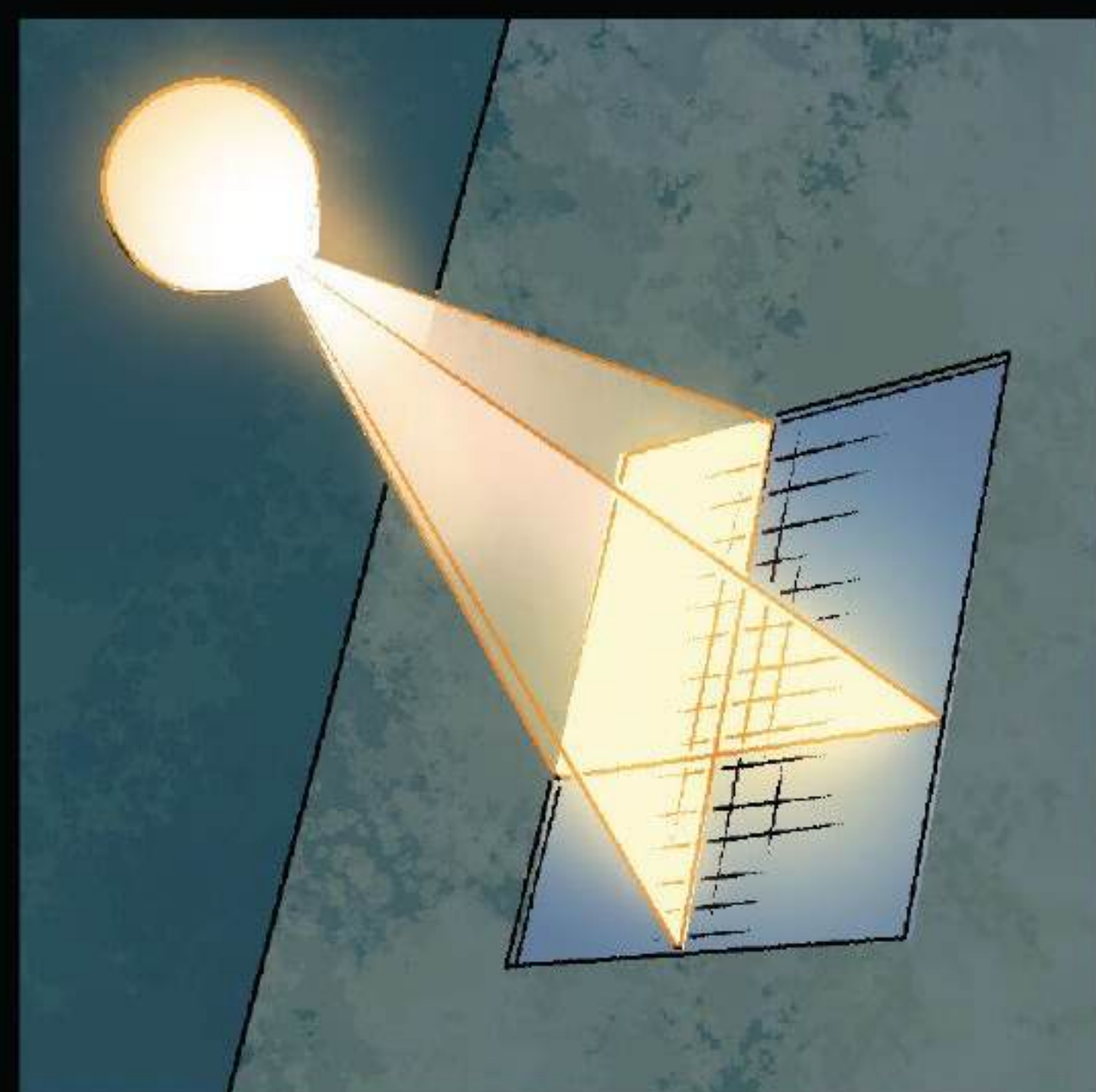
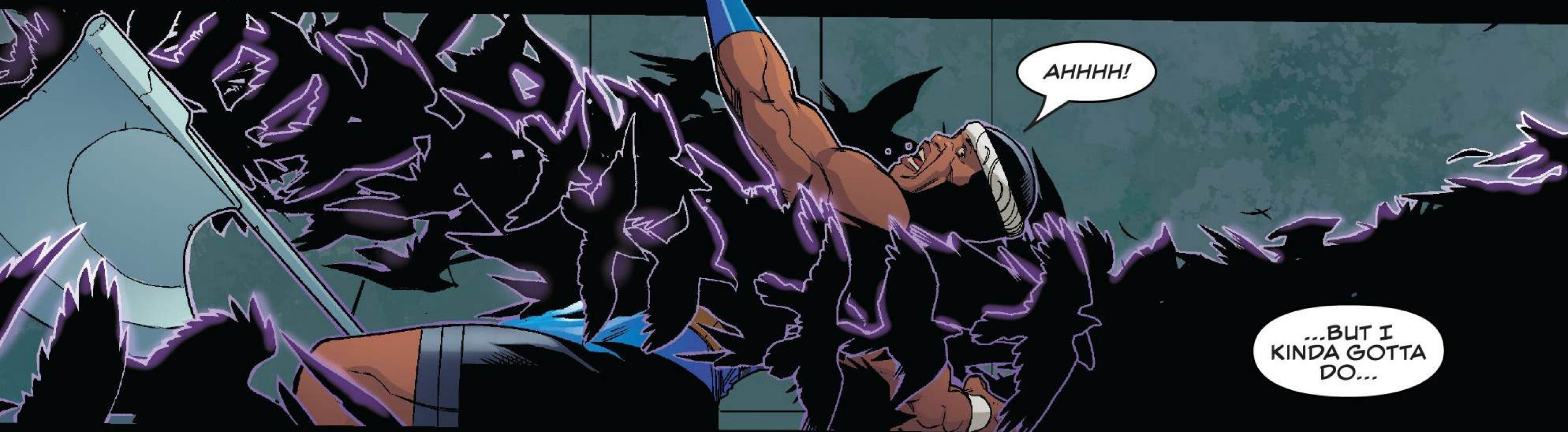
VRRN



I GOTCHA, BRO.









YOU WANT BOTH AN APOLOGY AND A SIDE OF GROVELING, I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU LATER. RIGHT NOW, WE NEED TO NOT BE HERE.

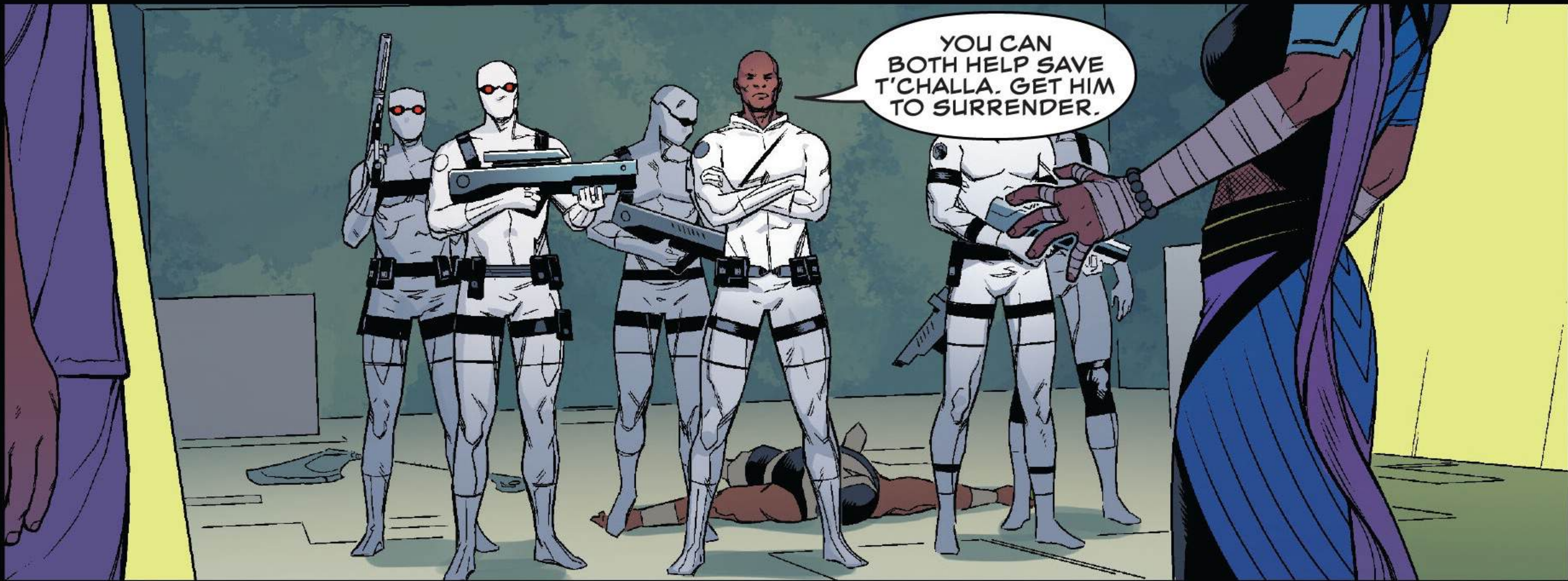
LET'S GO!



YOU BETTER UNDERSTAND SOMETHING:

IF YOUR BROTHER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR JHAI'S MURDER, I WILL KILL HIM.

AND IF T'CHALLA ISN'T RESPONSIBLE, WILL YOU HELP SAVE HIM?



YOU CAN BOTH HELP SAVE T'CHALLA. GET HIM TO SURRENDER.



YOU DON'T WANT T'CHALLA TO SURRENDER. AS LONG AS HE'S ON THE RUN, YOU CAN USE THE HATUT ZERAZE TO CONTROL WAKANDA.

YOU KNOW SOMETHING? I THINK YOU'RE AS PARANOID AS YOUR BROTHER.



THE WORD YOU'RE LOOKING FOR...

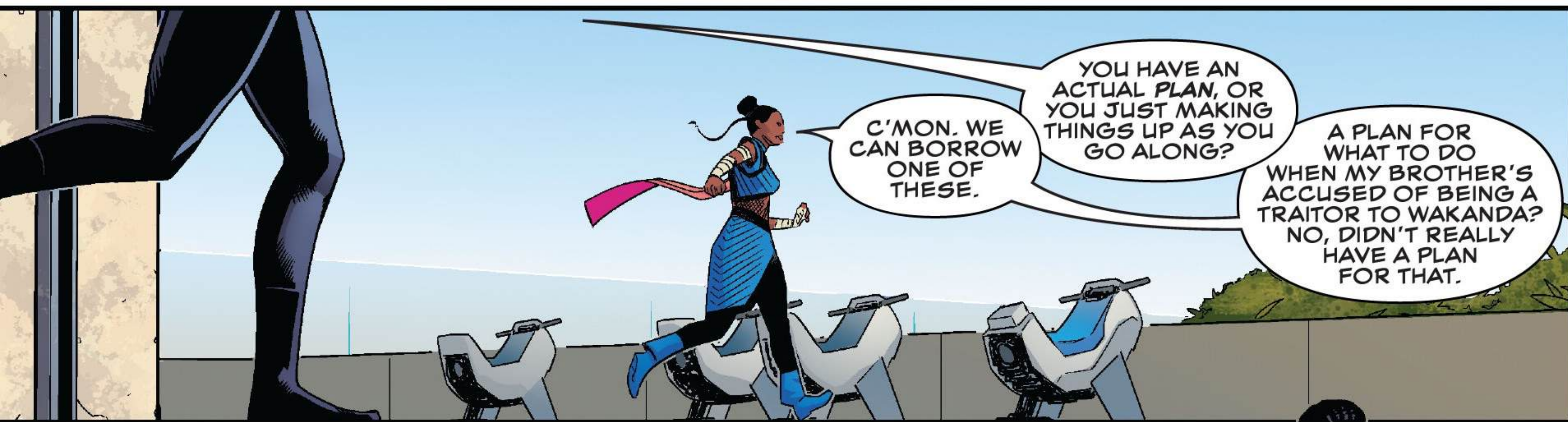
BEEP

...IS "PREPARED."



FWOOSH

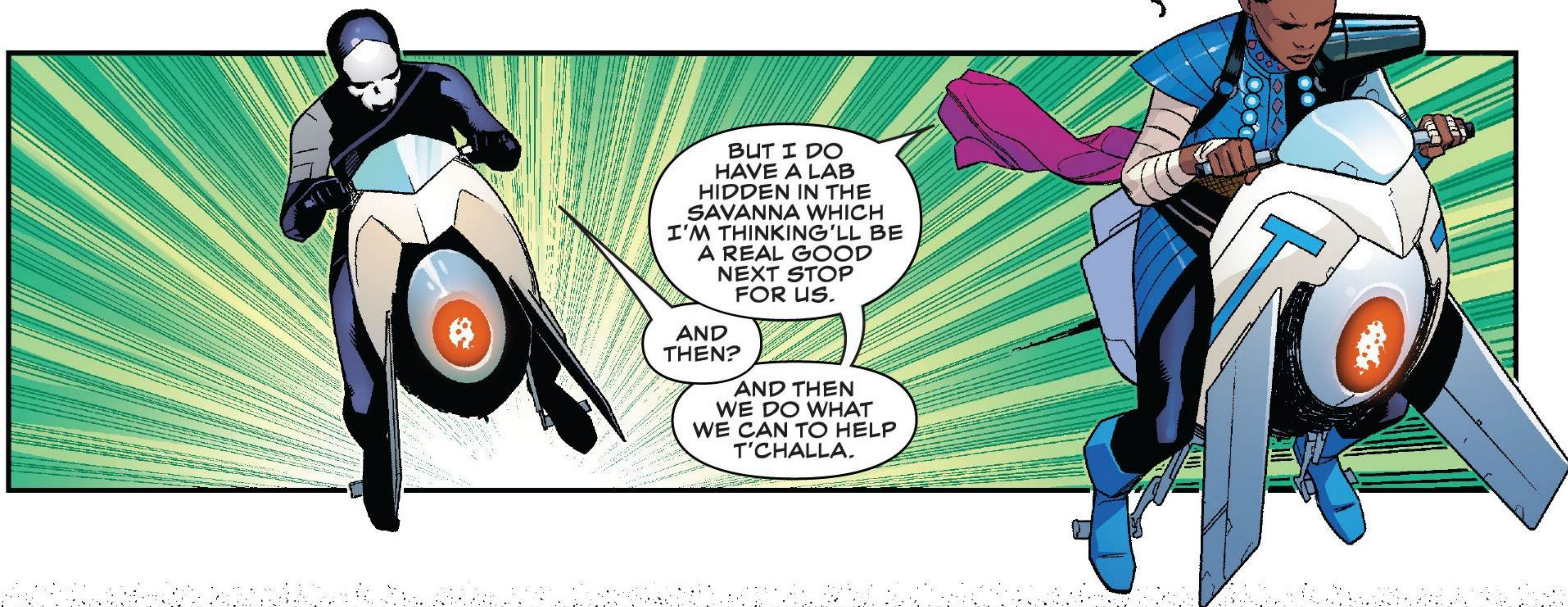




C'MON. WE CAN BORROW ONE OF THESE.

YOU HAVE AN ACTUAL PLAN, OR YOU JUST MAKING THINGS UP AS YOU GO ALONG?

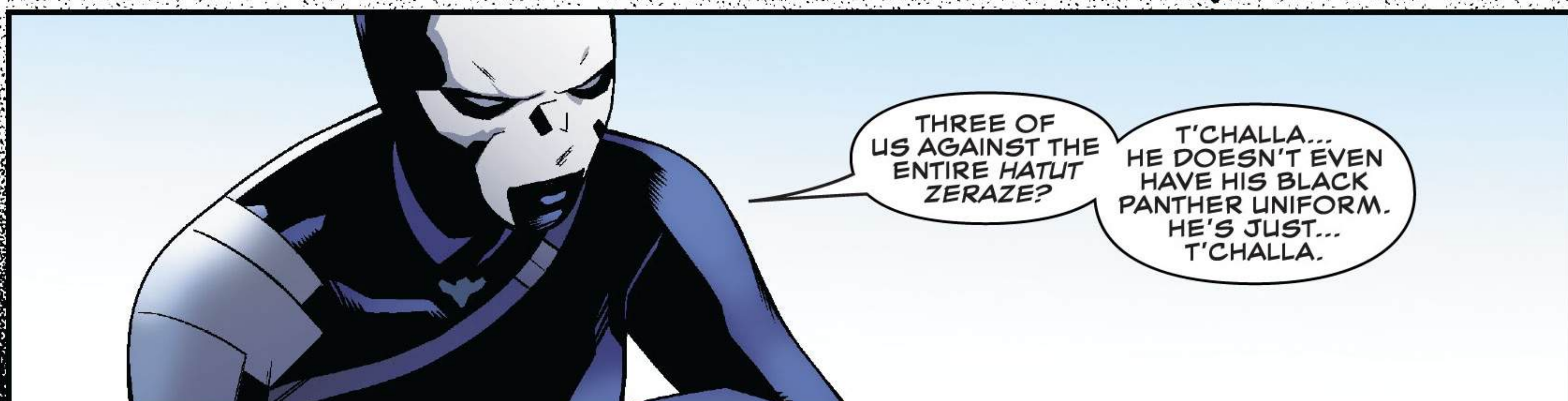
A PLAN FOR WHAT TO DO WHEN MY BROTHER'S ACCUSED OF BEING A TRAITOR TO WAKANDA? NO, DIDN'T REALLY HAVE A PLAN FOR THAT.



BUT I DO HAVE A LAB HIDDEN IN THE SAVANNA WHICH I'M THINKING'LL BE A REAL GOOD NEXT STOP FOR US.

AND THEN?

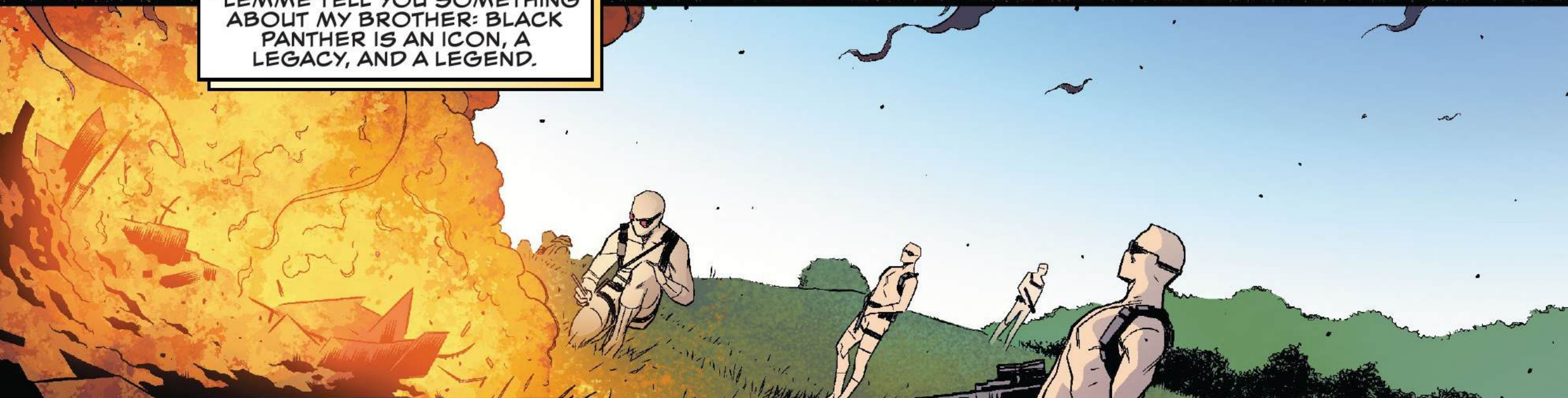
AND THEN WE DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP T'CHALLA.



THREE OF US AGAINST THE ENTIRE HATLIT ZERAZE?

T'CHALLA... HE DOESN'T EVEN HAVE HIS BLACK PANTHER UNIFORM. HE'S JUST... T'CHALLA.

"LEMME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT MY BROTHER: BLACK PANTHER IS AN ICON, A LEGACY, AND A LEGEND.



"BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, THE BLACK PANTHER UNIFORM IS JUST SOME SLICK GEAR.



"WITH OR WITHOUT IT..."

"...T'CHALLA'S NEVER
BEEN 'JUST'
ANYTHING."



TO BE CONTINUED...





#1 Headshot Variant |||||
|| **TODD NAUCK & RACHELLE ROSENBERG**



#1 Variant |||||
||||| **SIMONE BIANCHI**



#1 2ND Printing Sketch Variant ||||| **ALEX ROSS**



#1 Variant ||||| **JOHN ROMITA JR., KLAUS JANSON & JASON KEITH**





#2 Miles Morales: Spider-Man |||||
10TH Anniversary Variant |||||
||||| **KEN LASHLEY & JUAN FERNANDEZ**



#2 Devil's Reign Variant |||||
||||| **KAEL NGU**



#2 Deadpool 30TH Anniversary Variant |||||
||||| **ROB LIEFELD**



#2 Variant |||||
||||| **SKOTTIE YOUNG**





#3 Variant |||||
||||| **TAURIN CLARKE**



#3 Variant |||||
||||| **GARY FRANK & BRAD ANDERSON**



#3 Marvel Masterpieces Variant |||||
||||| **JOE JUSKO**



#3 2ND Printing Variant |||||
||||| **MATEUS MANHANINI**



#4 Variant |||||
||||| **STEPHANIE HANS**



#4 Variant |||||
||||| **SALVADOR LARROCA & EDGAR DELGADO**

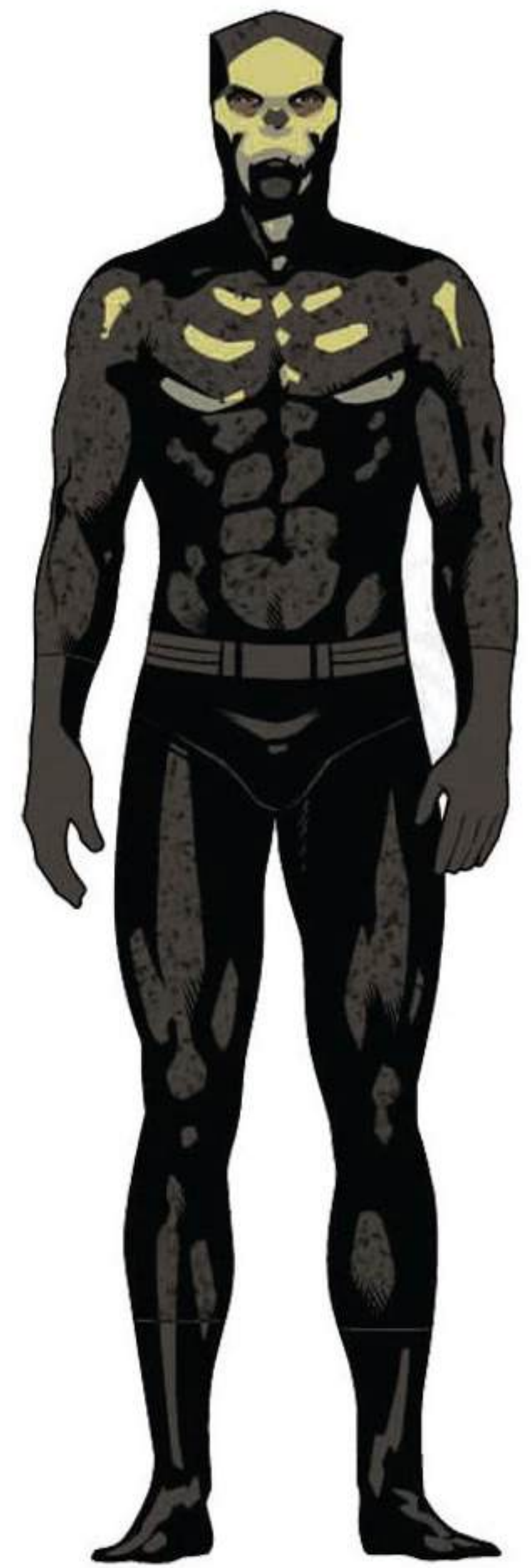
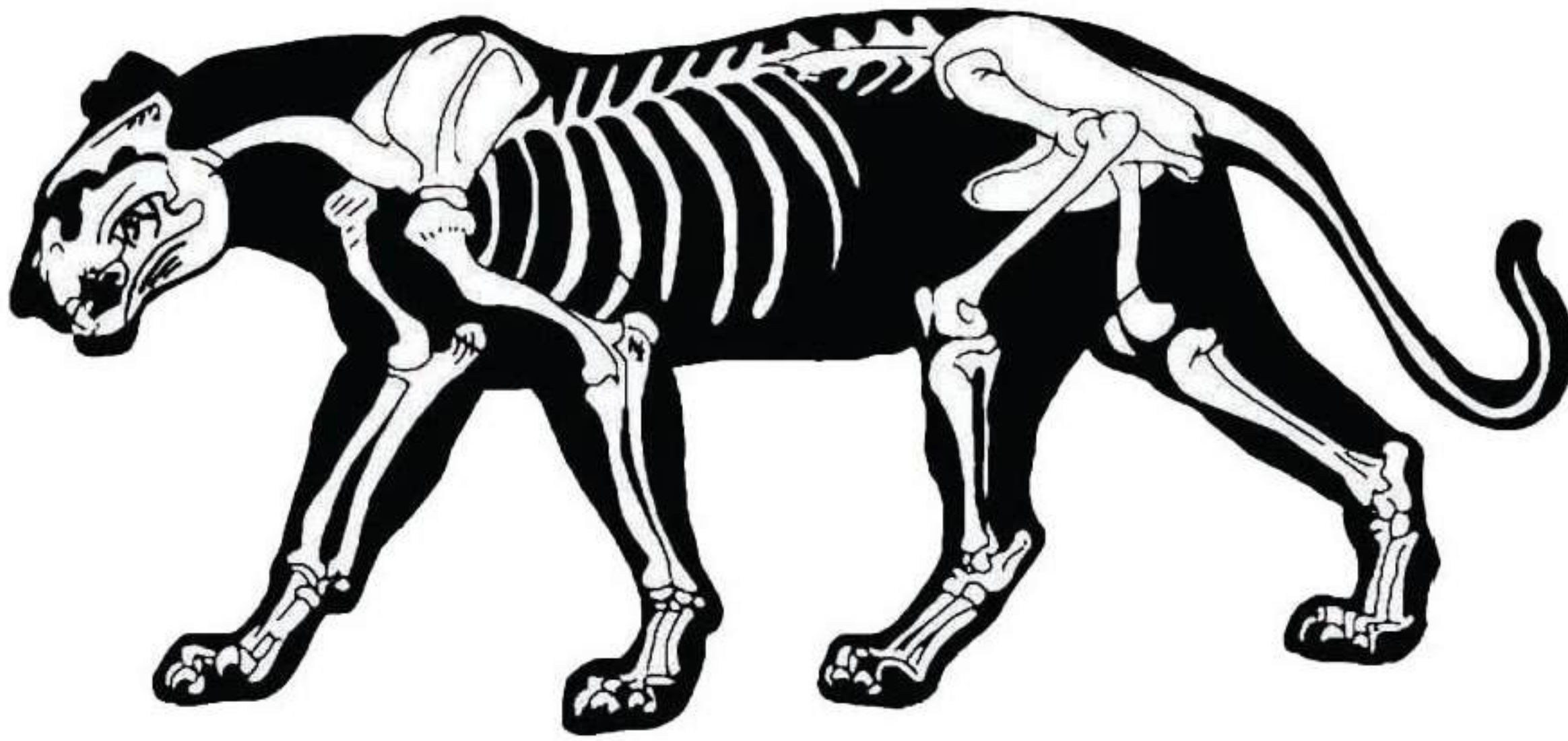


#5 Spider-Man Variant |||||
||||| **BOSSLOGIC**



#5 Variant |||||
||||| **GREG LAND & FRANK D'ARMATA**

The image displays six variations of a character model, likely a ninja, arranged in a single row. Each model is shown from the front, standing with its arms at its sides. The character is wearing a black hooded cloak with a wide, dark horizontal band across the chest. Underneath the cloak, the body is covered in a patterned garment. The pants are wide-legged and have a dark belt with a circular buckle. The character's face is obscured by a white mask with a red, stylized 'W' or 'M' shaped mark. A red sword is visible, tucked into a scabbard on the back of each model. The color schemes for the models are: 1. Black cloak, blue patterned body, blue pants. 2. Black cloak, light blue patterned body, light blue pants. 3. Black cloak, grey patterned body, grey pants. 4. Black cloak, white patterned body, white pants. 5. Black cloak, dark green patterned body, dark green pants. 6. Black cloak, light green patterned body, light green pants.



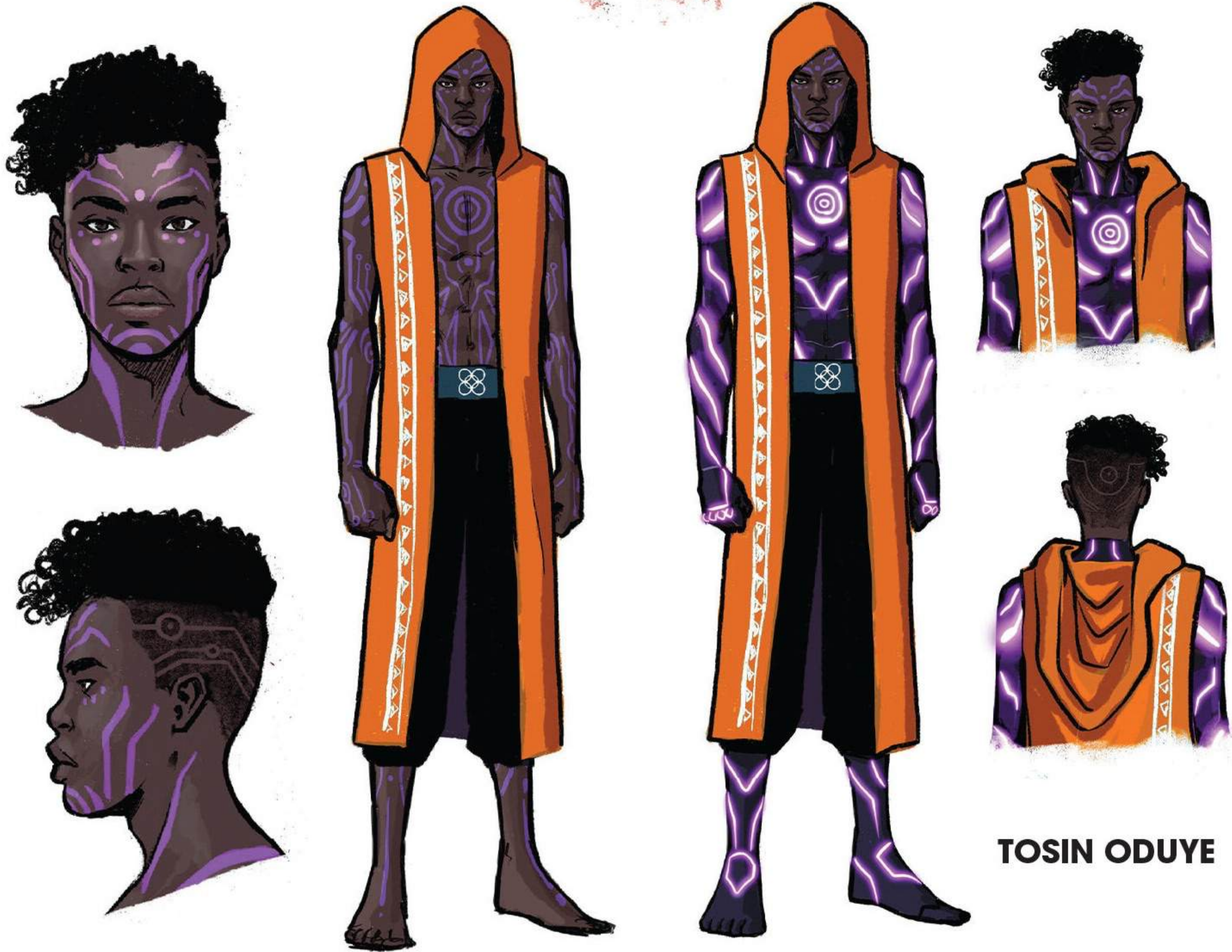
A full-body illustration of the character Deathstroke. He is depicted from the waist up, standing against a plain white background. He has a pale, skull-like face with dark eye sockets and a wide, jagged, toothy grin. His body is covered in a dark, form-fitting suit with a high collar. A wide, dark belt with a buckle is worn around his waist. He has long, dark, fingerless gloves and dark boots. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and shadows, emphasizing the contours of his suit and the features of his face.



TOSIN TRAINER

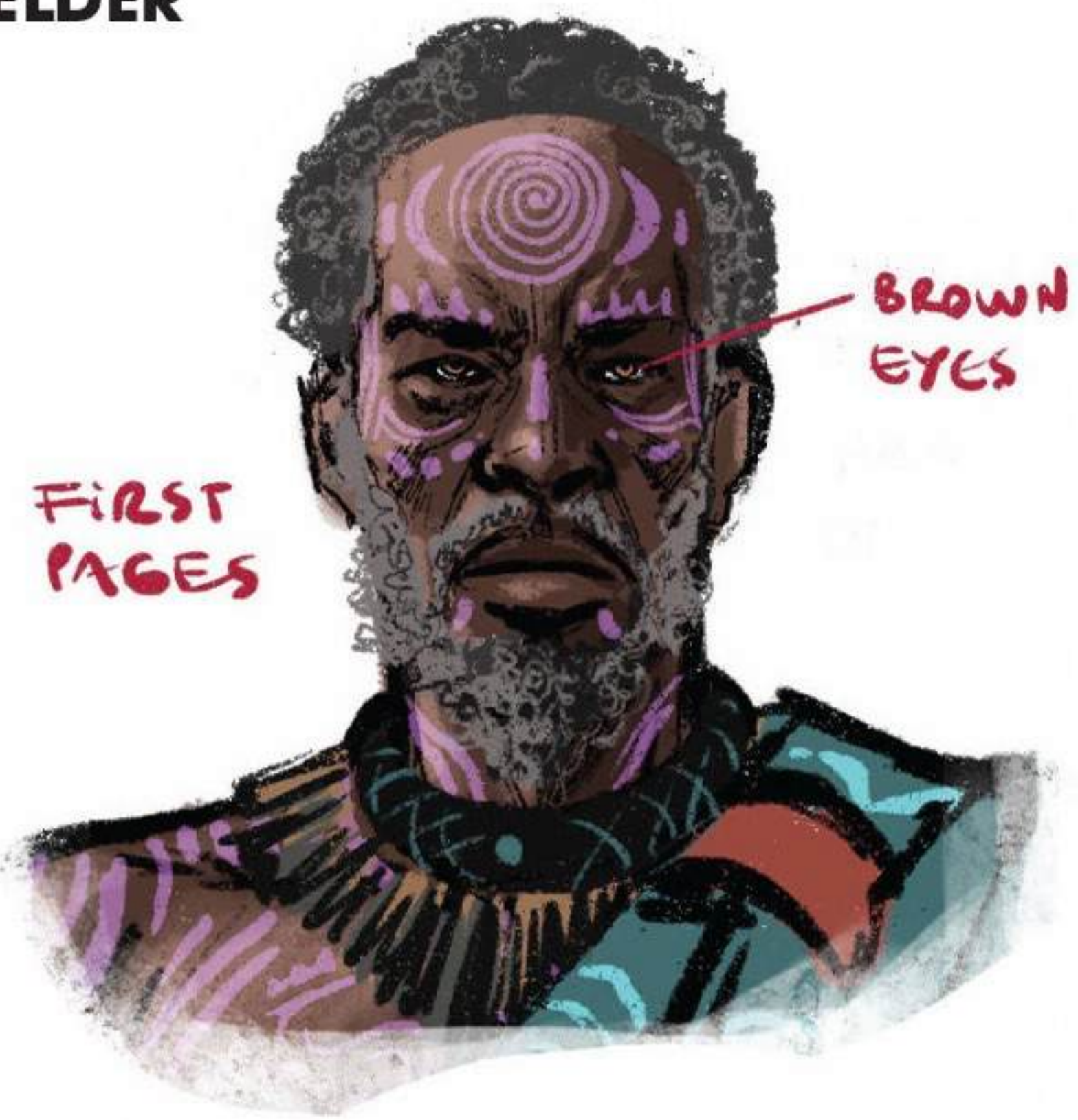


IMANI

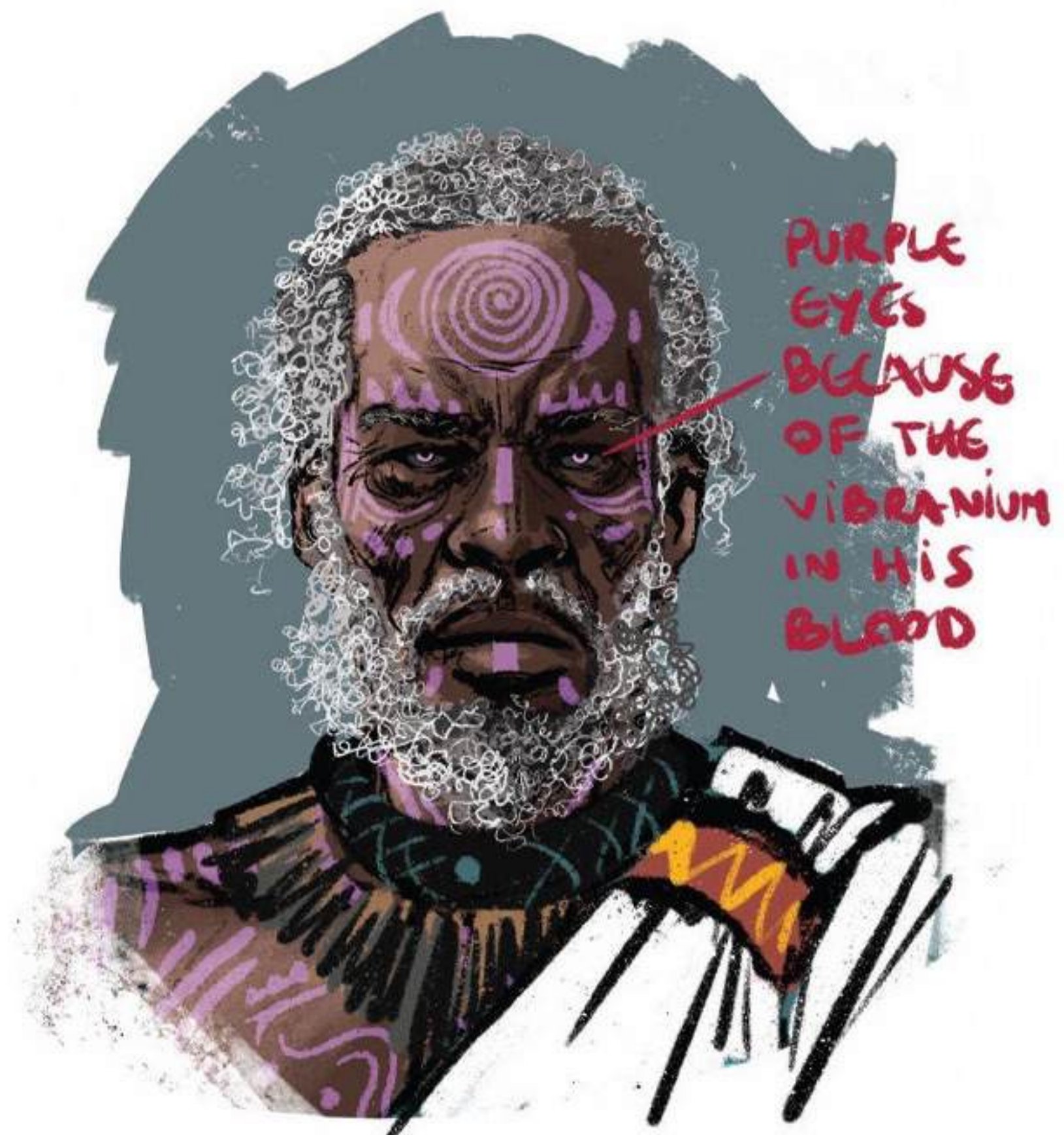


TOSIN ODUYE

TOSIN ELDER

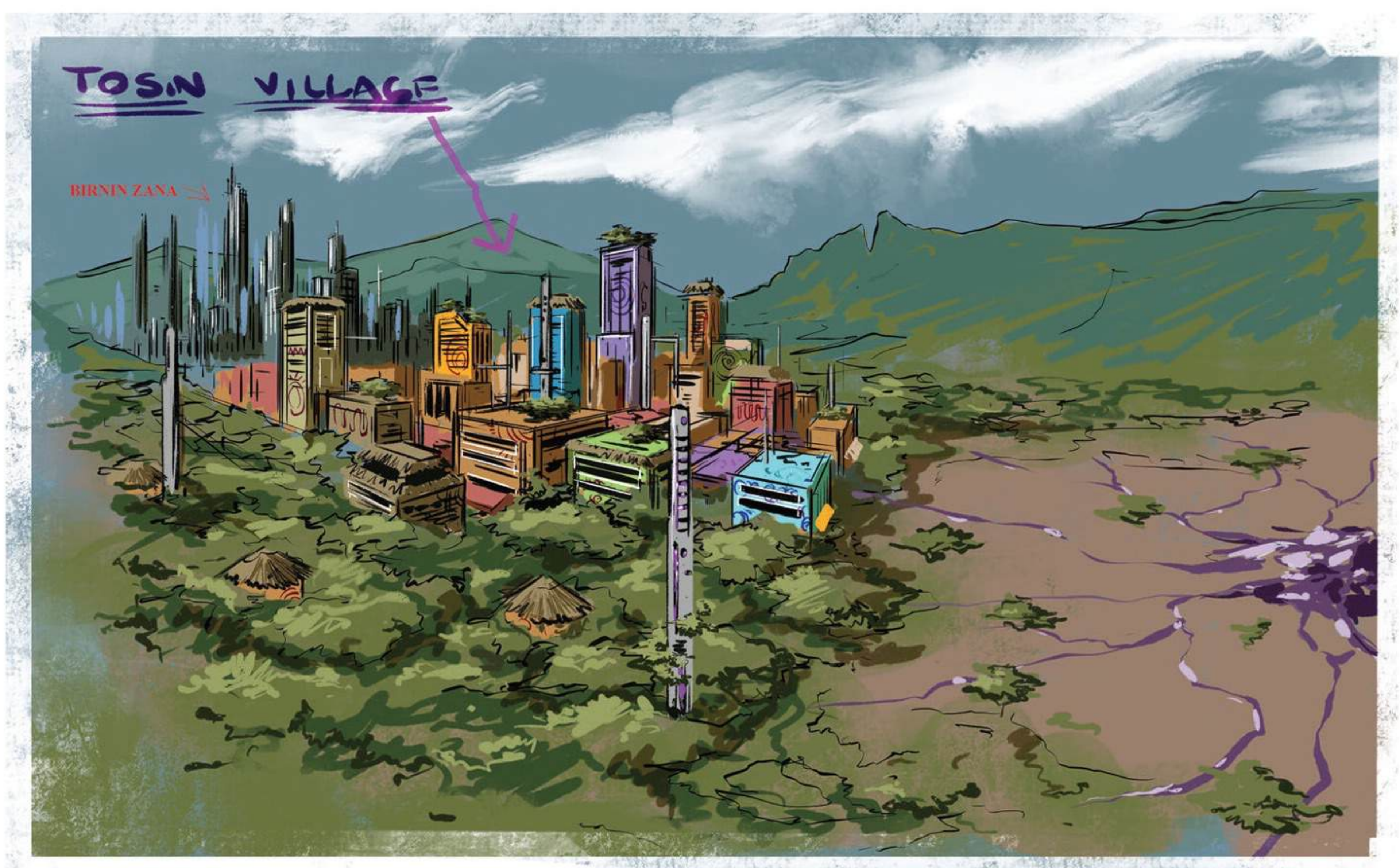


FIRST
PAGES



LAST PAGES

TOSIN VILLAGE





IF THE TRUTH COMES OUT, IT COULD COST HIM EVERYTHING!

ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING WRITER JOHN RIDLEY (*12 Years a Slave*) **AND MARVEL STORMBREAKER ARTIST JUANN CABAL** launch an all-new *Black Panther* series with an action-packed espionage story that will upend everything in T'Challa's life — and have ramifications for the entire Marvel Universe! Secrets from the Panther's past have come back to haunt him. Freshly returned from his travels in space, T'Challa receives an unexpected and urgent message from a Wakandan special agent. The Panther has the help of his brilliant sister, Shuri, but the assassins they face seem to always be one step ahead. Now T'Challa must race against the clock not only to save his agent, but also to keep his true agenda under wraps! Plus, the debut of Tosin, a new hero for a new Wakanda!

COLLECTING **BLACK PANTHER (2021) #1-5** — BY JOHN RIDLEY, JUNI BA, JUANN CABAL, IBRAHIM MOUSTAFA, GERMÁN PERALTA, FEDERICO BLEE, MATT MILLA, CHRIS O'HALLORAN AND JESUS ABURTOV.

T+

MARVEL